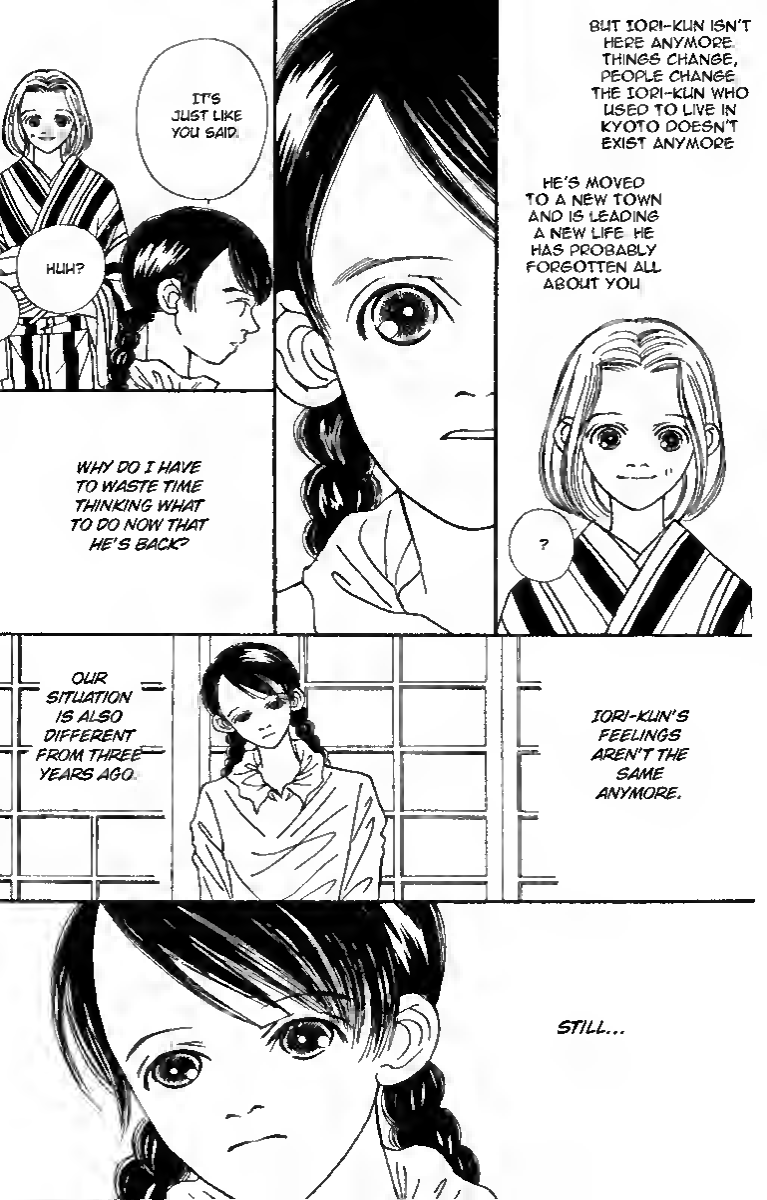
11
Fukuyadon Honpo
福堂本舗

WHAT DO I DO?
HANA, WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE SPACING OUT.
I THOUGHT ABOUT TELLING YOU BUT IT'S BEEN THREE YEARS SO MAYBE WE SHOULD LET THE PAST BE THE PAST.


IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID.
HUH?
WHY DO I HAVE TO WASTE TIME THINKING WHAT TO DO NOW THAT HE'S BACK?
BUT IORI-KUN ISN'T HERE ANYMORE. THINGS CHANGE, PEOPLE CHANGE. THE IORI-KUN WHO USED TO LIVE IN KYOTO DOESN'T EXIST ANYMORE
HE'S MOVED TO A NEW TOWN AND IS LEADING A NEW LIFE. HE HAS PROBABLY FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT YOU
?
OUR SITUATION IS ALSO DIFFERENT FROM THREE YEARS AGO.
IORI-KUN'S FEELINGS AREN'T THE SAME ANYMORE.
STILL...

STILL...
GOOD MORNING
G-GOOD MORNING.
IT'S GOOD TO HAVE SOME FRIENDS FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL IN MY CLASS.
ARE YOU IN CLASS 1, FUKUYOSHI?
...YEAH
"HANA-CHAN" BECAME "FUKUYOSHI,"
EVEN THOUGH HE CALLED ME "HANA-CHAN" IN HIS LETTERS.
WHY...?

AH, OH.
AH, YEAH HOW IS OBASAN?
SHE'S FINE
...
YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT ME ANYMORE, DO YOU?
I WANT TO ASK HIM STRAIGHTFORWARDLY BUT...
ARE WE STRANGERS NOW?
WHY DIDN'T YOU REPLY MY LETTERS?
I SIMPLY CAN'T ASK HIM HERE.
...
SORRY FOR INTERRUPTING YOU
I'LL BE GOING NOW.

I WAS SUDDENLY AFRAID TO KNOW THE TRUTH AND JUST BACKED OFF, IMAGINING THINGS BY MYSELF.
WHEN IORI-KUN STOPPED WRITING TO ME, WHY DIDN'T I TRY HARDER TO CONTACT HIM AND FIND OUT THE REAL REASON?
WHY...?
WHEN I THINK ABOUT THIS, I FEEL SO ASHAMED I CAN'T FACE IORI-KUN.
AND RUNNING AWAY TO DATE ANOTHER
GOOD MORNING.

GOOD MORN-ING...
WHERE SHOULD MEET ON OUR NEXT DATE?
THE TRAIN STATION?
I CAN MEET YOU BY THE TICKET BOOTH
OR DO YOU WANT ME TO PICK YOU UP AT HOME?
EITHER WAY IS FINE
...
IT'S UP TO YOU, MIBU-KUN
...
WHAT DO I DO?

I CAN'T LOOK EITHER MIBU-KUN OR IORI-KUN IN THE EYES.
I HEARD SHIN-NII WILL STAR IN "CATCHING THE FOX" NEXT YEAR.
YEAH, GRANDFATHER WILL PERSONALLY TRAIN HIM.
BECAUSE IT'S CONVENIENT FOR ME.
HE WILL?! THAT'S AWESOME! I HARDLY GET ANY PERSONAL TRAINING THESE DAYS.
YOU GET TO WATCH IT ALL THE TIME, DON'T YOU?

HEY!
DUDE! WHO'RE YOU? HAVE WE MET? DO YOU REMEMBER ME?
HEY!
...
CUT THE CRAP, KURA!
IT'S AT THE TIP OF MY TONGUE.
YOU LOOK STRANGELY FAMILIAR.
...
WE WEREN'T IN THE SAME CLASS LAST YEAR, WERE WE ..?
THIS IS WEIRD!
AREN'T YOU MIBU? YOU WERE VERY FAMOUS BACK IN MIDDLE SCHOOL. OF COURSE I REMEMBER YOU.

AHA! MIDDLE SCHOOL!
WHAT'S YOUR NAME AGAIN?
IORI
THAT'S RIGHT! I KNEW IT!
THAT RETARDED DORK
YOU WERE VERY CLOSE TO FUKUYO-SHI, RIGHT?
BYE!

What did Fukuyoshi see in him?
...
BYE? THAT'S COLD, MAN.
HE GLANCED MY WAY.

EH? WHERE'S FUKUYOSHI?
SHE LEFT? DID SHE SAY ANYTHING?
NOPE
SHE'S LEFT WEREN'T YOU TOGETHER?

...
STEP
VROOM
Hurry up, the bus is leaving
Wait for me!

?
pitter
pitter
WHZZZ

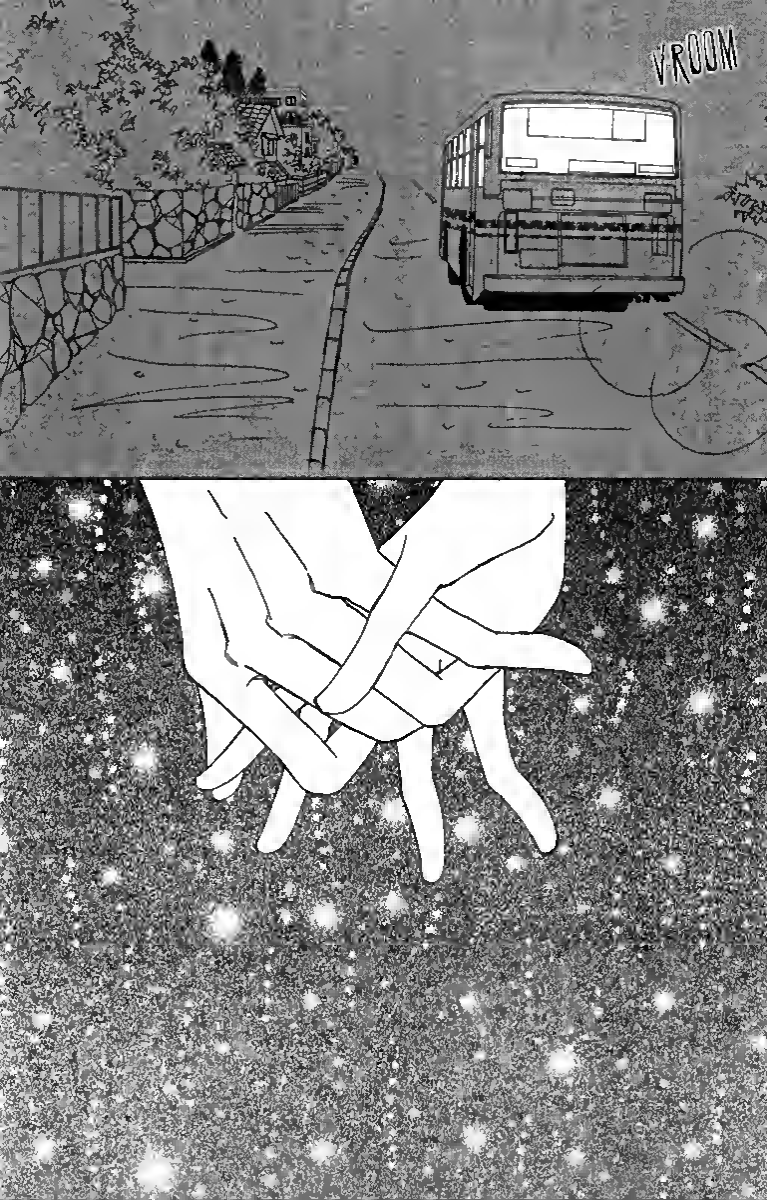
R
R
R
R
SHE DIDN'T CALL EITHER DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
HANA IS SO LATE TODAY. WHAT'S SHE DOING?
I'LL MAKE SOME CALLS

YES, MIBU HOUSE-HOLD
OH, NEE-SAN, IT'S ME.
I JUST GOT HOME.
FUKUYOSHI? NO SHE WASN'T WITH ME.
I HAD AN EVENING SHOW SO I WENT STRAIGHT TO THE THEATER AFTER CLASS.
SOME-THING WRONG WITH FUKUYO-SHI?
I CALLED HER OTHER FRIENDS, BUT THEIR HOMES ARE IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS SO THEY DIDN'T SEE HER
IT'S OKAY THEN. SORRY BYE.
I THOUGHT SHE MIGHT BE WITH YOU.
SHE ISN'T HOME YET.

OPEN
...
SO...?
NAO-CHAN DIDN'T KNOW, EITHER.
BUSSES AND TRAINS WILL STOP RUNNING SOON.
WHAT'S THAT GIRL UP TO?

VROOM

...
WHZZ


VROOM

FUKUOKA

...
IO...
...RI-KUN...

AREN'T YOU GOING TO GO IN?
Y-YEAH
GOOD MORNING
...

...
FUKUYOSHI!
I DIDN'T GO ANYWHERE.
WHERE WERE YOU YESTERDAY? YOUR SISTER CALLED ME. SHE WAS WORRIED

...
...
IORI-KUN...

WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW?
"IORI", RIGHT?
giggle
STILL AS CLUMSY AS EVER

THE GUY YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT BEFORE
IS THAT HIM..?
THERE'S NOTHING BETWEEN US ANYMORE
NOTHING?
YES, NOTHING.

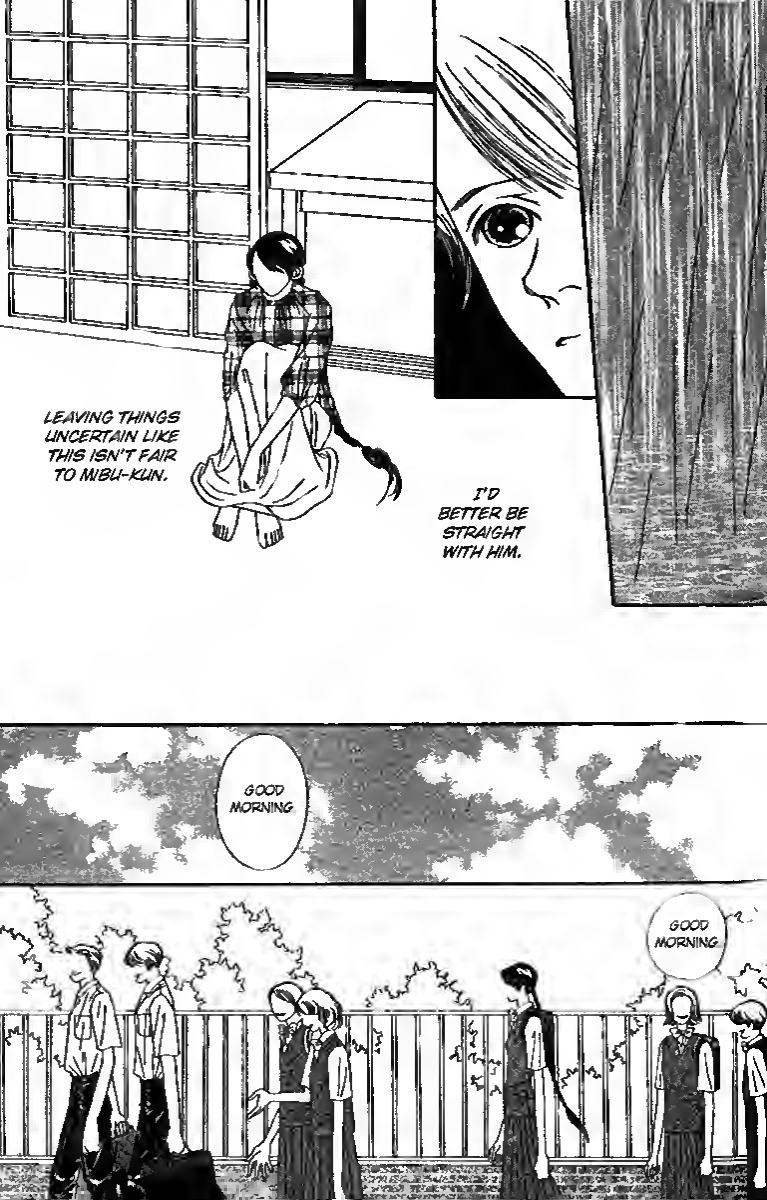
WHAT'S THE POINT OF WONDERING ABOUT WHAT TO DO?
WE HAVEN'T CONTACTED EACH OTHER IN A YEAR.
AND I ALREADY..
AND MIBU-KUN IS ..
WE HAVEN'T MET EACH OTHER FOR THREE YEARS...
...HAVE MIBU-KUN
DON'T SAY IT LIKE I'M AN OBSTACLE.

I'M STILL IN LOVE WITH IORI-KUN.

ZAA
DAMMIT...

HANA, NAO-CHAN CALLED
HE SAID HE CAN'T MAKE IT FOR YOUR DATE TOMORROW.
ZAA
I TOLD HIM I'D PUT YOU ON THE PHONE.
BUT HE SAID IT'S FINE AND HUNG UP.
OKAY.

MIBU-KUN ALREADY KNEW.


LEAVING THINGS UNCERTAIN LIKE THIS ISN'T FAIR TO MIBU-KUN.
I'D BETTER BE STRAIGHT WITH HIM.
GOOD MORNING
GOOD MORNING

GOOD MORNING
GOOD MORNING
HEY, FUKUYOSHI, GOOD MORNING!
IORI-KUN MUST HAVE CHANGED THE TIME HE WALKS TO SCHOOL. I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE THAT DAY.

NEE-SAN TOLD YOU I CALLED, RIGHT?
YEAH.
IT'S NOT BECAUSE I HAVE TO WORK OR ANYTHING
I KNOW
...
I'M SORRY I RAISED MY VOICE AT YOU THAT TIME.
I LOST MY TEMPER.

ABOUT THE ANSWER I GAVE YOU LAST TIME, PLEASE FORGET IT.
MIBU-KUN,
BUT I ALREADY HAVE SOMEONE I LIKE.
I REALLY ADMIRE YOU, MIBU-KUN.
I'M VERY SORRY THINGS TURNED OUT LIKE THIS.
NAO, LISTEN!

I KNOW. NAO LOST HIS TEMPER AGAIN, RIGHT?
EH? WHAT'S UP? ARE YOU TWO HAVING A FIGHT?
THIS IS BAD.
Takakura from class 2 she.
EVERY PROBLEM HAS A WAY OUT.
CHILL OUT, YOU TWO.
Eh ?
THERE'S NO WAY OUT.
...
NO, THERE IS NOT.
RIGHT, FUKUYOSHI?

Nao
What's going on?
NAO, ARE YOU HAVING A FIGHT WITH FUKUYOSHI?
NO
I'M NOT BLIND.
FORGET IT
LISTEN, NAO-CHAN.
THAT'S RIGHT.
DIDN'T YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL ME?
I'M DESPERATE, WHAT SHOULD I DO?
BUT I'M ALREADY DATING SOMEONE ELSE.
I CASUALLY ASKED TAKAKURA IF SHE WANTED TO GO OUT WITH ME. SHE SMILED AND AGREED

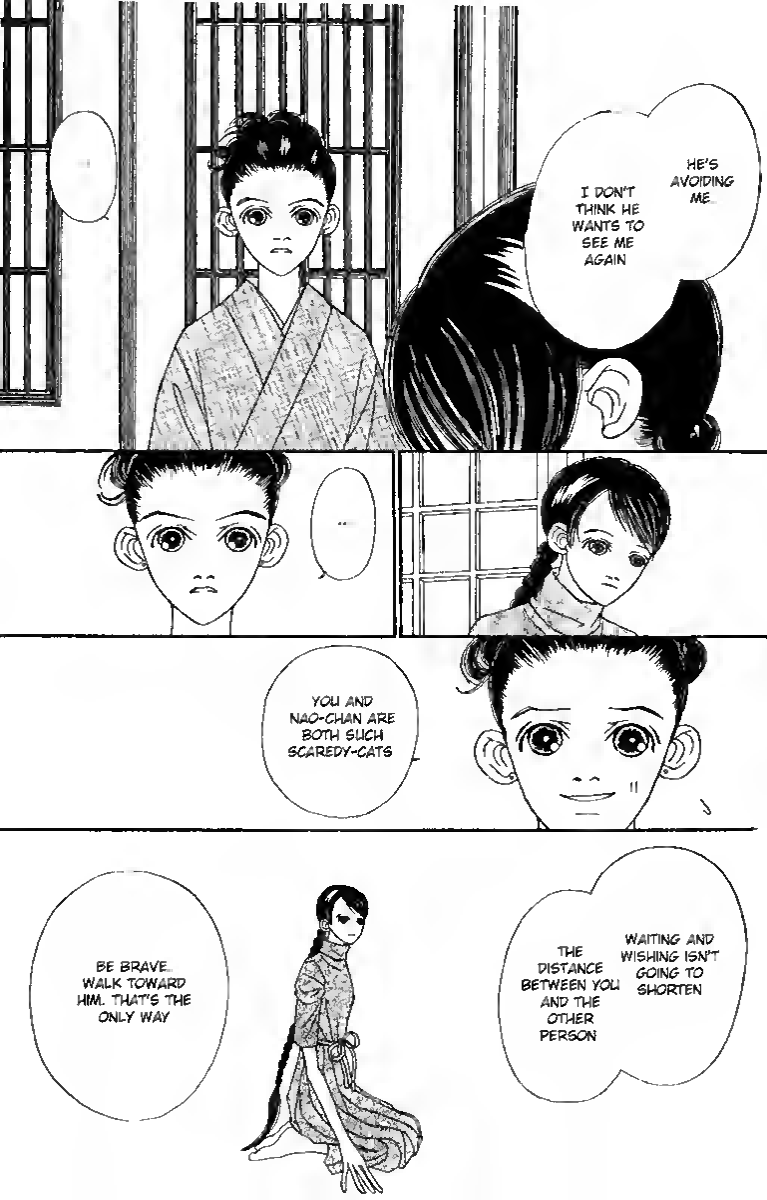
BUT IF THERE'S ANOTHER PERSON IN THE PICTURE, IT CAN'T BE HELPED
SAYING YES AND THEN TAKING BACK ONE'S OWN WORDS IS TERRIBLE
YOU'VE BEEN WITH HER FOR OVER A YEAR. YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LET SOMEONE SNATCH HER FROM RIGHT UNDER YOUR NOSE, ARE YOU?
YOU SHOULD BE WORRIED ABOUT YOURSELF. IF YOU FIGHT WITH FU-KUYOSHI, SHE'LL GO BACK TO HER OLD BOYFRIEND.
AREN'T YOU LUCKY? SO MANY RESERVES TO FALL BACK ON
Y...YOU THINK?
DARN. I GUESS I'VE TO GO BACK TO MIKA-CHAN
...
SERI-OUS-LY?
pale
YOUR MIKA-CHAN IS DATING A GUY IN MY CLASS, TOO.

Damn you Nao!
I don't need that information!
This is why Fukuyoshi will dump you!
...
I REALLY ADMIRE YOU, MIBU-KUN.
BUT I ALREADY HAVE SOMEONE I LIKE
...

YOU DON'T NEED TO ADMIRE ME. JUST LOVE WOULD BE ENOUGH.

AREN'T YOU LIFELESS, ENTRANCE EXAM STUDENT?!
STOP WITH THE SIGHING GO GET SOME FRESH AIR WITH NAO-CHAN.
you can!
EH? BUT NAO-CHAN HASN'T BEEN AROUND LATELY.
...
SAY, HANA I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK YOU
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF NAO-CHAN? YOU MUST KNOW WHAT HE THINKS OF YOU, RIGHT?

I CAN'T GO OUT WITH MIBU-KUN.
I ALREADY HAVE SOMEONE I LIKE
THAT BOY IS VERY SHY. IF YOU DON'T MAKE SOME MOVE, IT WON'T GO ANYWHERE
ARE YOU GOING OUT WITH THE PERSON YOU LIKE?
THAT'S WHY HE HASN'T BEEN HERE AT ALL LATELY POOR GUY
DOES NAO-CHAN KNOW ABOUT THIS?
WHAT?! HOW COME THIS ARARE DOESN'T KNOW?!
NO.
YEAH.


HE'S AVOIDING ME...
I DON'T THINK HE WANTS TO SEE ME AGAIN
...
...
YOU AND NAO-CHAN ARE BOTH SUCH SCAREDY-CATS
WAITING AND WISHING ISN'T GOING TO SHORTEN THE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND THE OTHER PERSON
BE BRAVE. WALK TOWARD HIM. THAT'S THE ONLY WAY

YES
ARARE
OR ELSE YOU'LL REGRET WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN.
...
I WAS SUDDENLY AFRAID TO KNOW THE TRUTH AND JUST BACKED OFF, IMAGINING THINGS BY MYSELF...
WHEN IORI-KUN STOPPED WRITING TO ME, WHY DIDN'T I TRY HARDER TO CONTACT HIM AND FIND OUT THE REAL REASON?
I'M GOING OUT.
OKAY.
ARARE-CHAN.

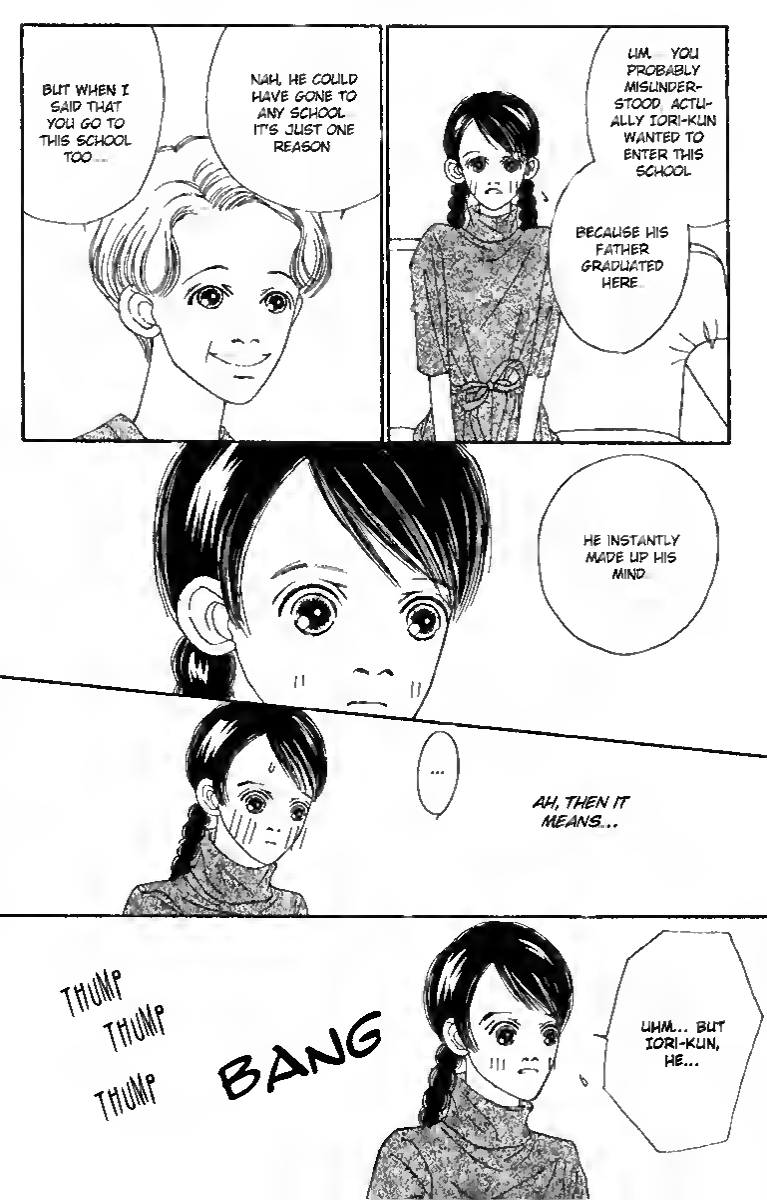
toilet
clack
clack
clack
What should I do? Should I come back another time?
...
NOBODY'S HOME?

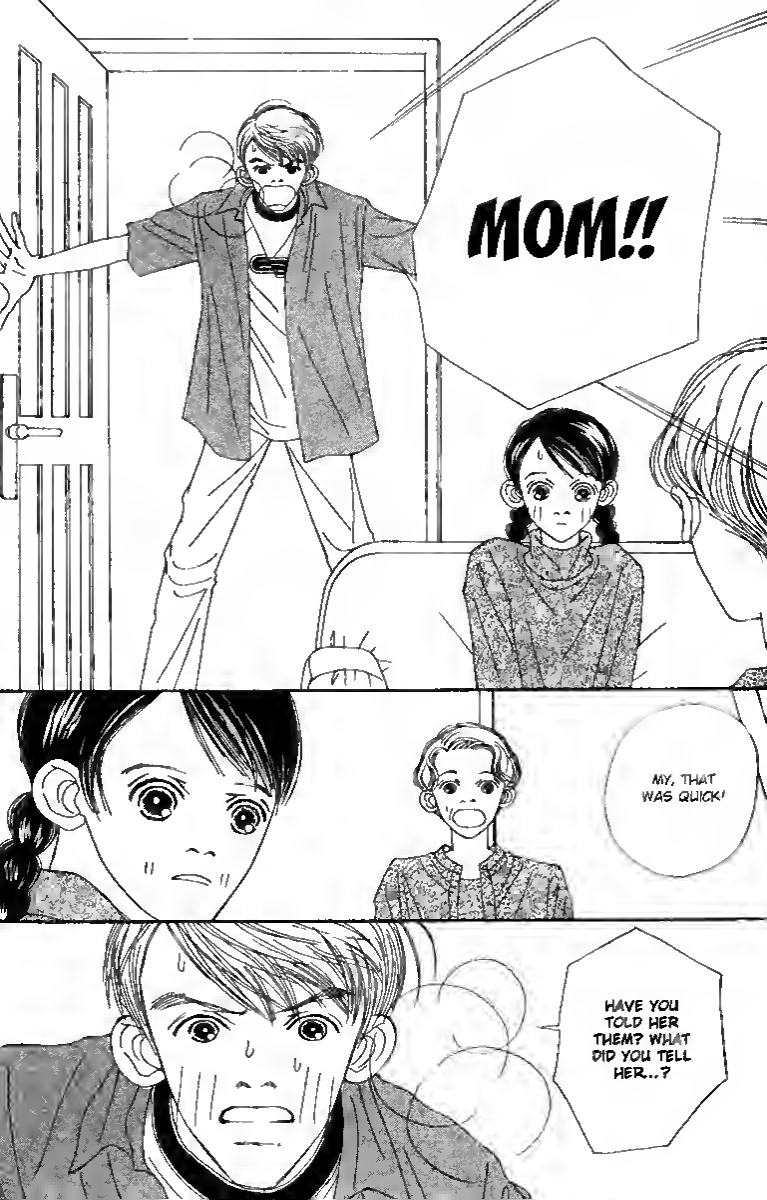
ARE YOU HANA-CHAN?
...
IORI-KUN'S MOTHER?
AH.
Open
AH!
Y-YES.
COME IN.
N-NO
SO IT'S REALLY YOU. ARE YOU HERE TO SEE TOMO?

HE SHOULD BE BACK SOON
TOMO WENT TO SEE SOME FRIENDS IN SHIJOU.
TH-THANK YOU.
TOMO?
WHAT DO I DO NOW?
HELLO, THIS IS THE IORI RESIDENCE
EH? NO?
SHE'S HERE WAITING FOR YOU!
No, obasan. We didn't.
YOU'RE LATE. WEREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO MEET HANA-CHAN TODAY?
...
IF YOU DON'T COME BACK SOON, EVERY 5 MINUTES I'LL TELL HANA-CHAN ONE OF YOUR EMBARRASSING STORIES THAT YOU DON'T WANT HER TO KNOW ABOUT
ANYWAY, YOU SHOULD COME BACK SOON
MY BOY SHOULDN'T MAKE A GIRL WAIT!

I'VE SEEN YOU MANY TIMES.
The last time you were in 9th grade
I BET HE'S ON HIS WAY HOME.
YOU ALWAYS HELP OUT AT THE SHOP, RIGHT? I CAN'T HELP BUT ADMIRE YOU EVERY TIME I GO TO BUY WAGASHI.
I REMEMBER WHEN TOMO WAS IN PRIMARY SCHOOL, AND I TOLD HIM THAT I MET A GIRL FROM HIS SCHOOL AT THE SHOP, HIS FACE TURNED ALL
HE MUST HAVE LIKED YOU EVEN BEFORE THAT
Right! He mentioned that in one of his letters
IORI-KUN'S MOTHER IS A CUSTOMER?
I HOPE I DIDN'T LEAVE A BAD IMPRESSION
...
WHEN WE WERE ABOUT TO MOVE, HE SAID HE'D STAY HERE ALONE BECAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE YOU
HIS GRANDFATHER LIVES AROUND HERE
HE SAID HE'D STAY THERE AND NOT COME WITH US
UM...HALF A YEAR AGO, I TRIED TO CALL HIM BUT IT DIDN'T WORK.
DID YOU MOVE AGAIN?
OH, THE PHONE.

SO THEY DIDN'T MOVE.
One that's easier to remember
I'm so bad with numbers
I COULDN'T MEMORIZE IT SO I HAD IT CANCELED AND APPLIED FOR A NEW ONE.
THE NUMBER WAS SO DIFFICULT TO REMEMBER
I FEEL THAT I OWE TOMO.
TOMO WOULD HAVE BEEN FINE WITH THAT, BUT IT TOOK US THREE YEARS.
WE THOUGHT WE'D ONLY BE THERE FOR A YEAR
HE KEPT SAYING HE WANTED TO GO TO THE SAME SCHOOL AS YOU.
HE STILL THINKS ABOUT YOU ALL THE TIME, HANA-CHAN.
EH?


BUT WHEN I SAID THAT YOU GO TO THIS SCHOOL TOO...
NAH, HE COULD HAVE GONE TO ANY SCHOOL IT'S JUST ONE REASON
UM... YOU PROBABLY MISUNDERSTOOD. ACTUALLY IORI-KUN WANTED TO ENTER THIS SCHOOL
BECAUSE HIS FATHER GRADUATED HERE.
HE INSTANTLY MADE UP HIS MIND.
...
AH, THEN IT MEANS...
THUMP THUMP THUMP
BANG
UHM... BUT IORI-KUN, HE...


MOM!!
MY, THAT WAS QUICK!
HAVE YOU TOLD HER THEM? WHAT DID YOU TELL HER...?

HOW LUCKY, YOU MADE IT IN TIME
I WAS TELLING HER HOW YOU WANTED TO GO THE SAME SCHOOL AS HER
AND I WAS ABOUT TO TELL HER ABOUT THAT INCIDENT THAT YOUR WET YOUR BED IN KINDER-GARTEN AND WHEN YOUR ATTEMPT TO RUN AWAY FROM HOME FAILED...
GOSH, THAT WAS NOT SOMETHING YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO TELL ANYONE!
HOW IS THAT "IN TIME"?!
...
...

BUT IT'S JUST AS TOMO SAID
MOM!
GEEZ, TOMO, WHEN YOU'RE WITH ME, IT'S ALWAYS HANA-CHAN THIS, HANA-CHAN THAT NOW THAT YOU'RE IN FRONT HER, WHY CALL HER BY HER LAST NAME?
FUKUYOSHI, YOU WANTED TO SEE ME?
MOM!
HANA-CHAN, YOU'VE BECOME EVEN MORE BEAUTI-FUL
WHY? I ONLY TOLD THE TRUTH
PLEASE STOP!
DON'T SAY ANOTHER WORD!
THE SHIRT I BORROWED FROM YOU A LONG TIME AGO
UH, I CAME TO RETURN THIS TO YOU

She finally found an excuse to come to his house.
...
WELL,
I THOUGHT I'D RETURN IT TO YOU BY MAIL, BUT...
IT'S AMAZING I USED TO WEAR THAT TINY SHIRT.
I'M GLAD I KEPT IT UNTIL NOW.
...
OBA-SAN SAID I SHOULD COME AGAIN.
CAN I?
...

...
IF IT'S A BOTHER.
AH, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.
PLEASE DON'T MAKE THAT FACE
I'M FINE WITH IT, I JUST THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE AWKWARD FOR YOU
OH, HANA CAME BACK WITH A BOY.
HANA

ARARE-CHAN
WHO'S THAT? A FRIEND? INVITE HIM INSIDE, SILLY GIRL
YOU'RE BACK. WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
EH...?
EH? THAT VOICE..
..HM...?
HELLO.
THAT LITTLE BOY?!
IT'S BEEN A WHILE

YOUR DAD WAS TRANSFERRED BACK I SEE
IS IT PERMANENT?
OH, SO YOU GO THE SAME SCHOOL HANA DOES
I SEE.
I BET MOM IS JUST AS DISAPPOINTED
YOU'RE BACK, HA HA.
I SEE.
MY DREAM OF HAVING A KYOUGEN BROTHER-IN-LAW DISAPPEARED IN A POOF.
POOR NAO-CHAN. HIS RIVAL IS UNDEFEATABLE.
...

WE'RE ALL GOING OUT FOR DINNER. WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU, HANA
AH, IS THAT SO? SORRY I CAME BACK SO LATE.
WHO'S THIS?
LONG TIME NO SEE. LOOK HOW YOU'VE GROWN
HA HA, I SURE DID
KENJI-SAN AND HINOYAMA-SAN ARE HERE. WHAT'S THE OCCASION?
THAT'S HINOYAMA-S. N, MY BROTHER-IN-LAW.
...
HE'S HANA'S MIDDLE SCHOOL'S FRIEND. HE MOVED AWAY IN 9TH GRADE AND JUST CAME BACK.
OH, YOU'VE NEVER MET HIM BEFORE.
SUCH A SMALL VOICE FOR YOUR LOOKS. I EXPECTED A YOUNG MAN TO ISSUE A LOUDER GREETING
I'M IORI
HMM

MORE THAN WE TRUST YOU.
BUT A BOY AND A GIRL COMING BACK THIS LATE IN THE EVENING . CAN WE TRUST HIM?
ARE YOU SURE IT'S ALRIGHT? THEY MAY BE FRIENDS.
I'M- I'M IORI.
NO NEED TO SHOUT WE CAN HEAR YOU.
TOO SOFT.
I'M SORRY.
YOUNG MAN, BRING HANA HOME EARLIER NEXT TIME.
HE MUST BE JEALOUS, SEEING A GOOD-HEARTED MAN SO UNLIKE HIMSELF
POOR KID, HE'S BEING BULLIED BY THAT TANUKI
WHAT ARE YOU SHOUTING FOR?
I'M SORRY.
YOU'RE STILL YOUNG. BE A LITTLE MORE CONFIDENT
THAT'S VERY KIND OF YOU, BUT I'M JUST HERE TO SEE HER HOME.
WE'RE GOING OUT FOR DINNER. IORI-KUN, WHY DON'T YOU JOIN US?

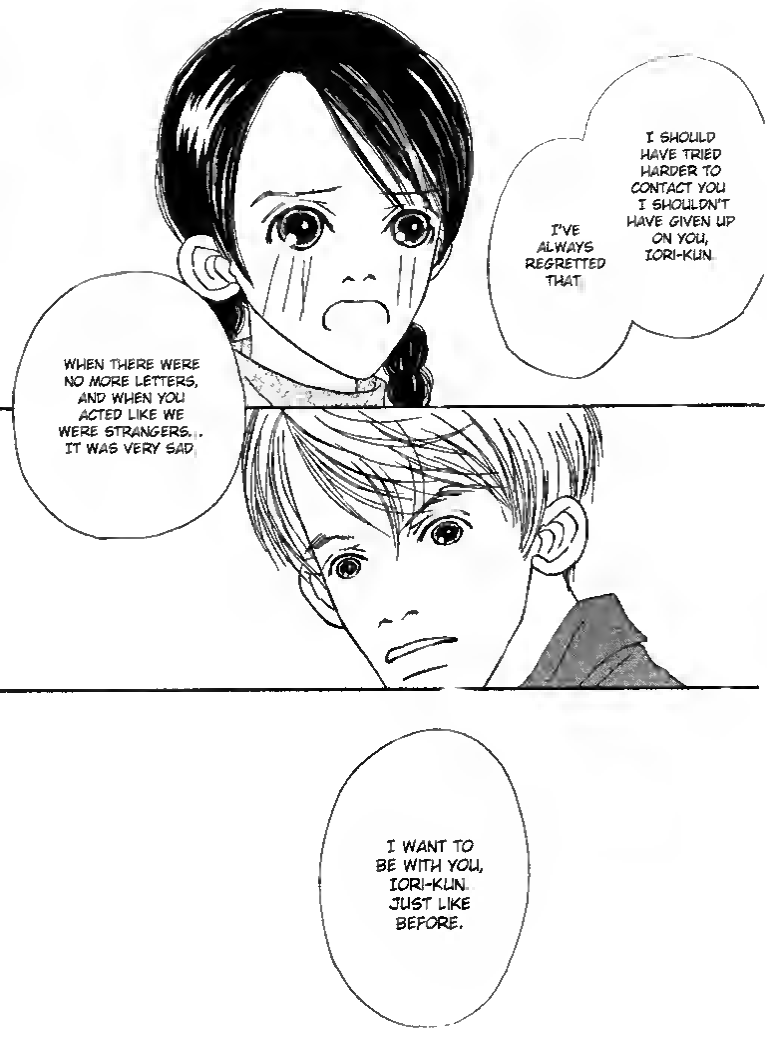
BYE.
I WOULDN'T WANT TO INTRUDE. .
WE HAVEN'T REALLY TALKED.
...
I'M SORRY I NEED TO TALK TO IORI-KUN
SLIDE
BANG
HANA, LET'S ROLL WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU FOR AGES
SHALL WE GO?

IORI-KUN, HOLD ON.
UH...
WHY DIDN'T YOU REPLY TO MY LETTERS? I WAS WAITING.

LAST YEAR I CAME BACK HERE SEVERAL TIMES
WHY DIDN'T YOU WRITE BACK AT ALL?
I WAS ANXIOUSLY WAITING EVERYDAY. "WILL IT COME TODAY? WILL IT COME TOMORROW?"
I HEARD ABOUT MIBU.

FIRST I HEARD IT FROM MY FRIEND AT R-HIGH, AND SO I WANTED TO SEE IT FOR MYSELF.
AFTER THAT, I THOUGHT IT WOULDN'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE IF I WROTE A LETTER OR NOT.
THERE WAS NO CLEARER ANSWER.
NOW THAT I'VE COME BACK, YOU PROBABLY THINK I'M HERE TO DISRUPT YOUR LIFE.
ACTUALLY, I MEANT TO GO TO A DIFFERENT SCHOOL BUT...
I JUST COULDN'T LET IT GO. ACTUALLY...

EVEN NOW I'M TRYING TO HOLD IT IN
I...
PLEASE FORGET EVERY-THING YOU HEARD TODAY
I DIDN'T STOP WRITING YOU LETTERS BECAUSE OF MIBU-KUN
BUT BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO THINK I WAS A NUISANCE


I SHOULD HAVE TRIED HARDER TO CONTACT YOU. I SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN UP ON YOU, IORI-KUN.
I'VE ALWAYS REGRETTED THAT.
WHEN THERE WERE NO MORE LETTERS, AND WHEN YOU ACTED LIKE WE WERE STRANGERS... IT WAS VERY SAD.
I WANT TO BE WITH YOU, IORI-KUN. JUST LIKE BEFORE.

I'LL EXPLAIN ABOUT MIBU-KUN CLEARLY TO HIM.
...
THE TWO OF US WERE IN DIFFERENT PLACES, LEADING DIFFERENT LIVES.
BECAUSE OF ALL THE DOUBTS AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN US,
THE GAPS THAT WEREN'T FILLED WITH THE WORDS THOSE LETTERS HELD BECAME IMMEASURABLE.

THERE ARE THE TYPES THAT GO STRAIGHT AND THE TYPES THAT SPIN YOU AROUND IN CIRCLES.

BOTH TYPES ARE AT THE SAME LEVEL WHEN THE RIDE STARTS. THEN THEY SEPARATE TO THEIR OWN LAPS AND THEN COME BACK TO EACH OTHER AGAIN.
YEAH, IT'S CALLED DYDRASAURUS.
YEAH, WE'LL DEFINITELY GO THERE TOGETHER. I PROMISE

PROMISE

Fukuyadon Honpo

by YUCHI Yayomi

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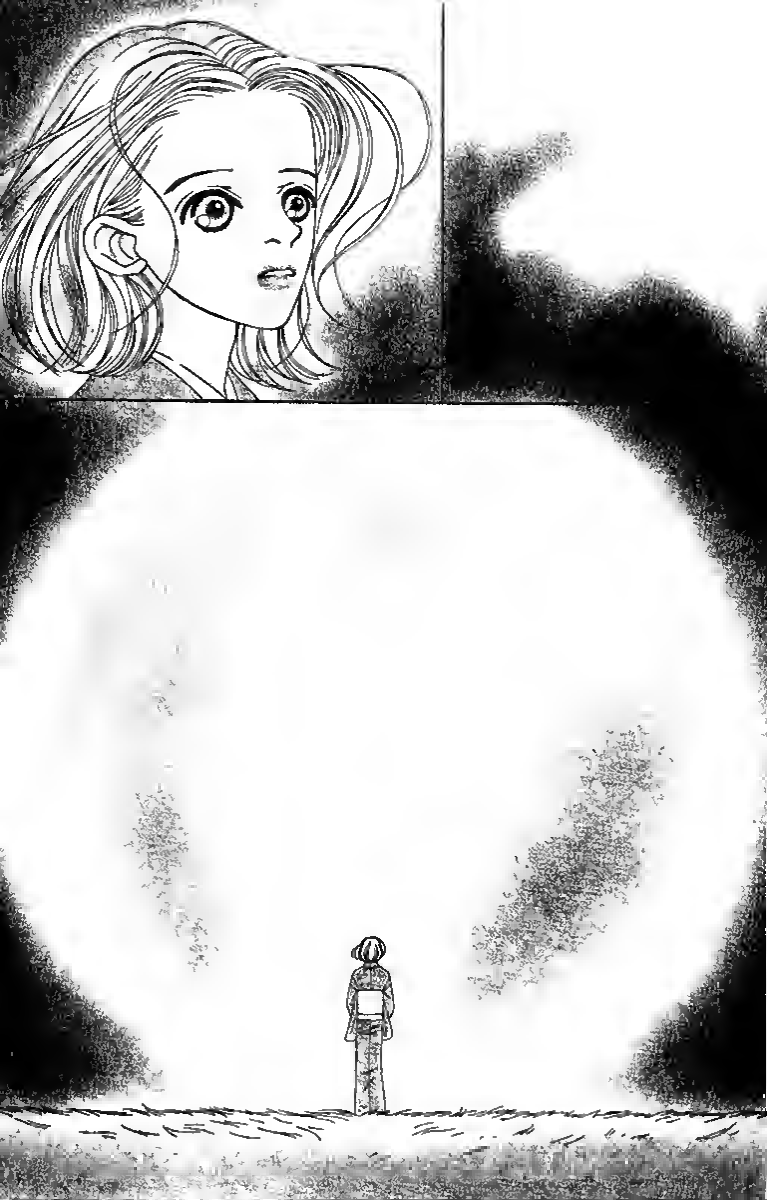
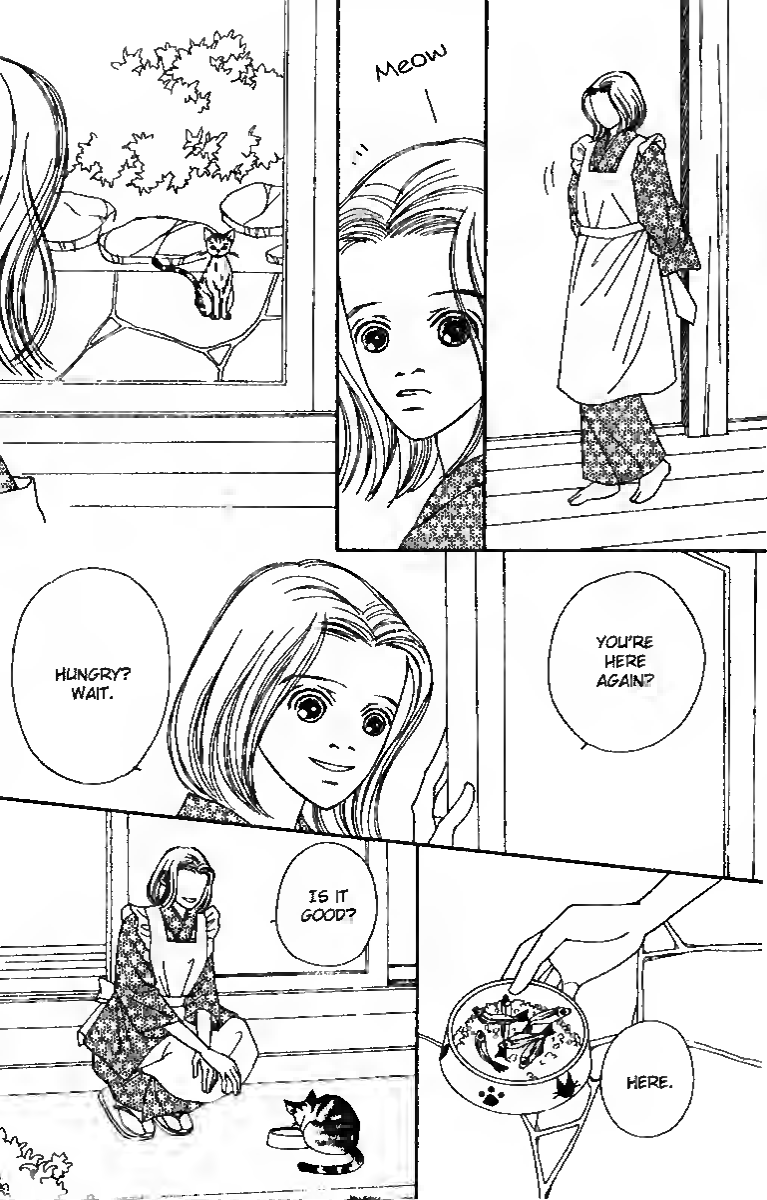


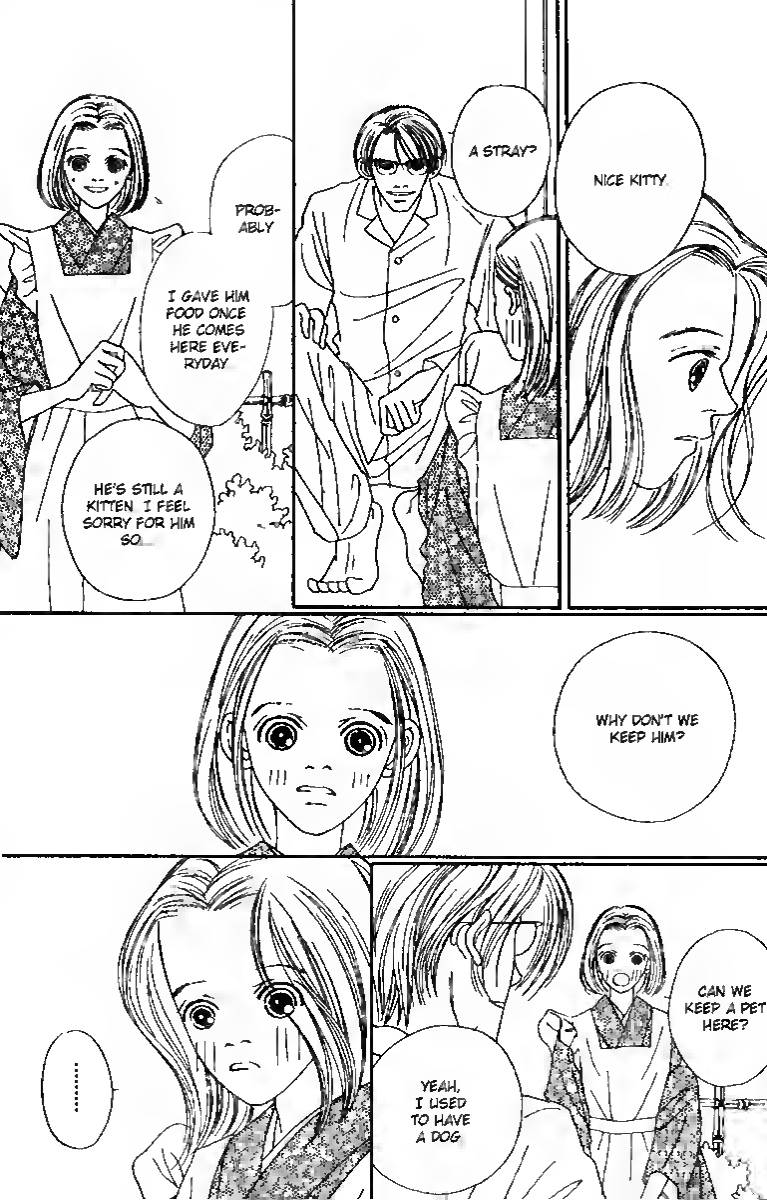
Fukuyadō Honpo

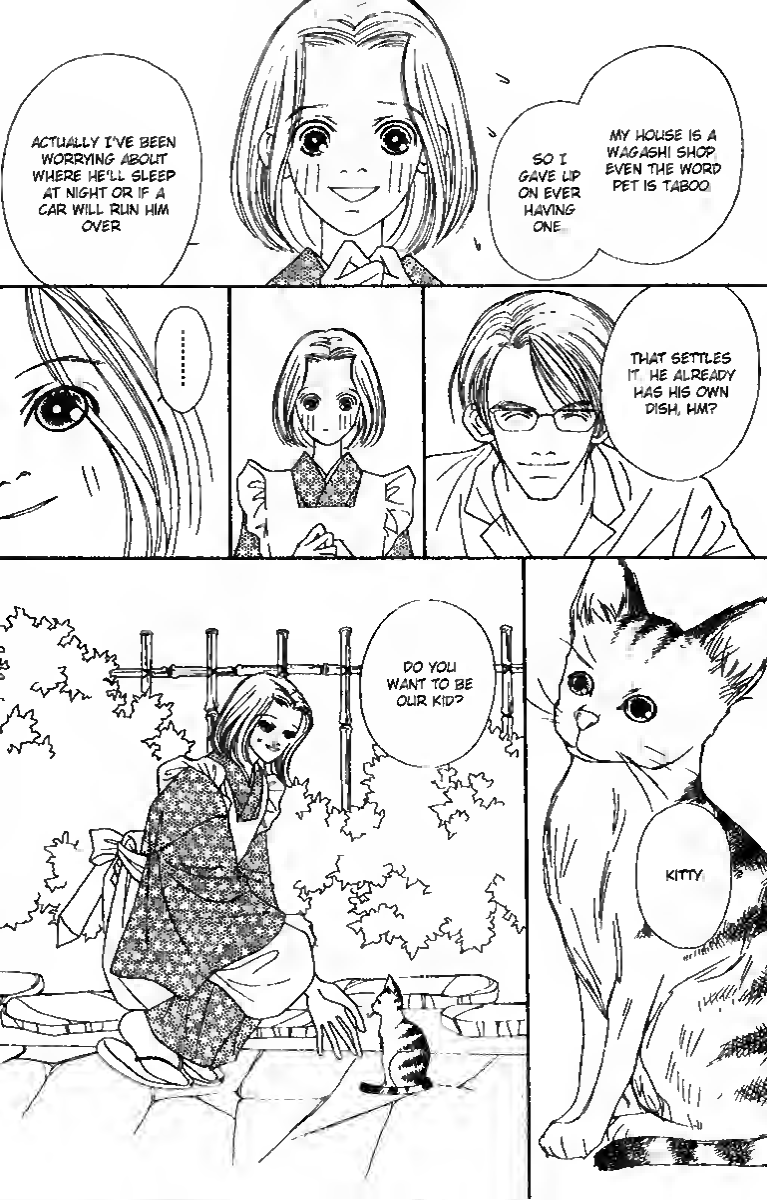
福家堂本舗

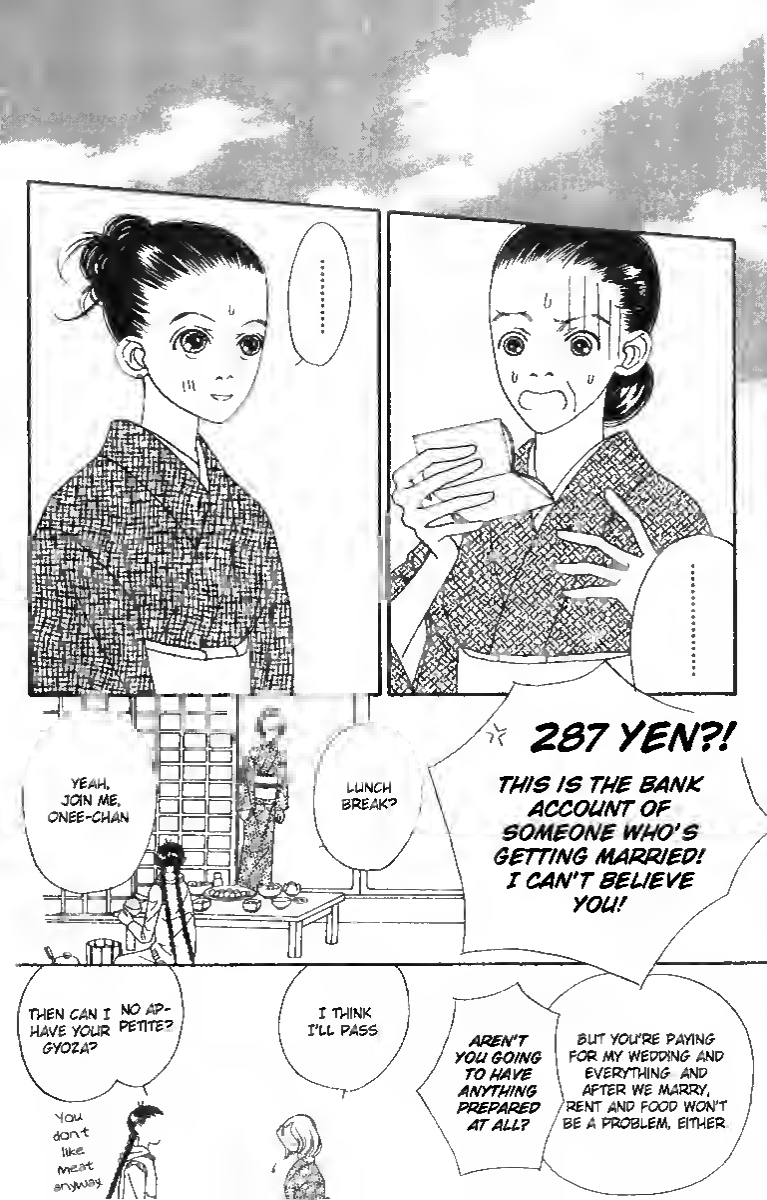
Silent words (1)

Ah
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
.....
.....
.....
spaced out
Yawn


Meow
YOU'RE HERE AGAIN?
HUNGRY? WAIT.
IS IT GOOD?
HERE.

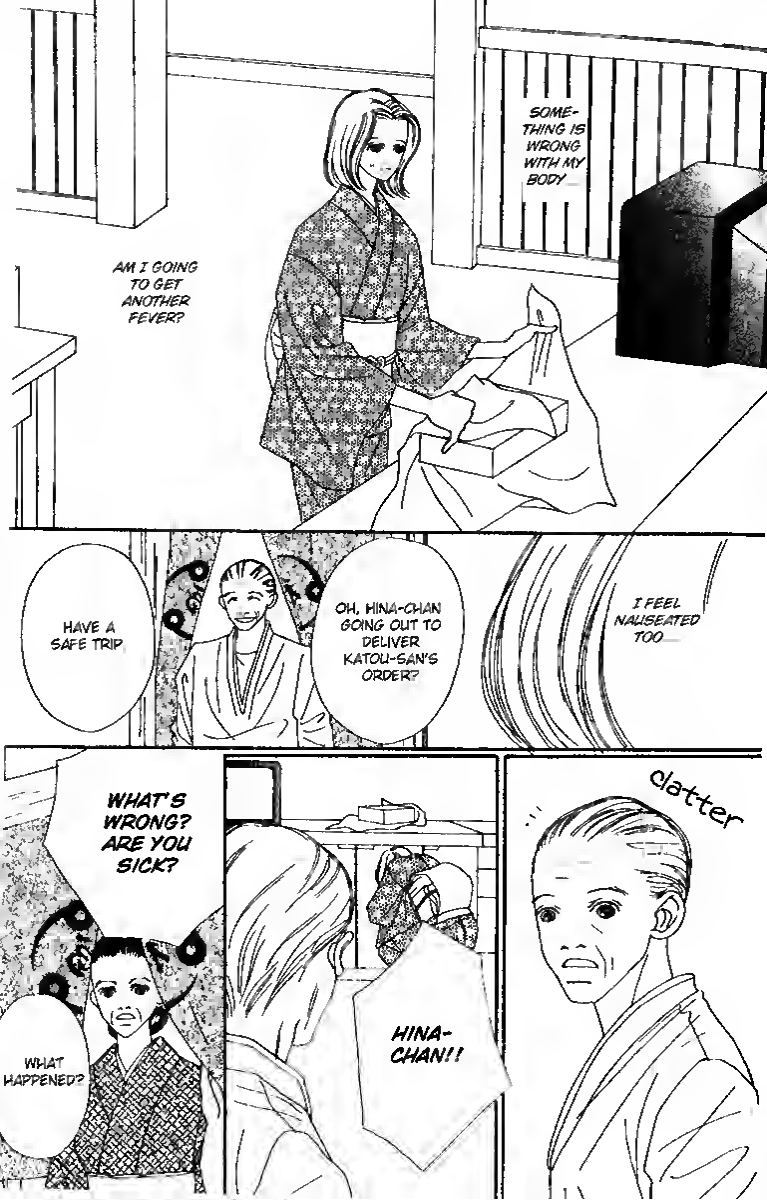

NICE KITTY
A STRAY?
PROB-
ABLY
I GAVE HIM FOOD ONCE HE COMES HERE EVE-
RYDAY
HE'S STILL A KITTEN. I FEEL SORRY FOR HIM SO.
WHY DON'T WE KEEP HIM?
.....
YEAH, I USED TO HAVE A DOG
CAN WE KEEP A PET HERE?

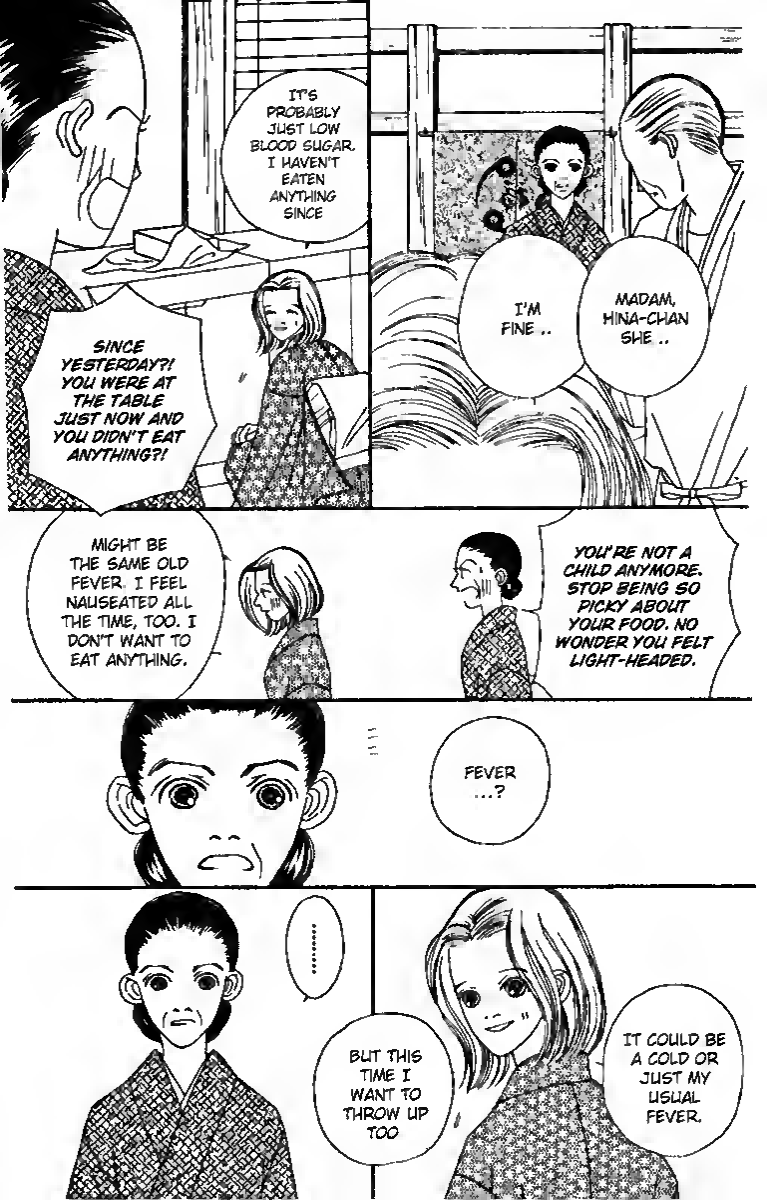

ACTUALLY I'VE BEEN WORRYING ABOUT WHERE HE'LL SLEEP AT NIGHT OR IF A CAR WILL RUN HIM OVER
SO I GAVE UP ON EVER HAVING ONE
MY HOUSE IS A WAGASHI SHOP EVEN THE WORD PET IS TABOO
.....
THAT SETTLES IT. HE ALREADY HAS HIS OWN DISH, HM?
DO YOU WANT TO BE OUR KID?
KITTY

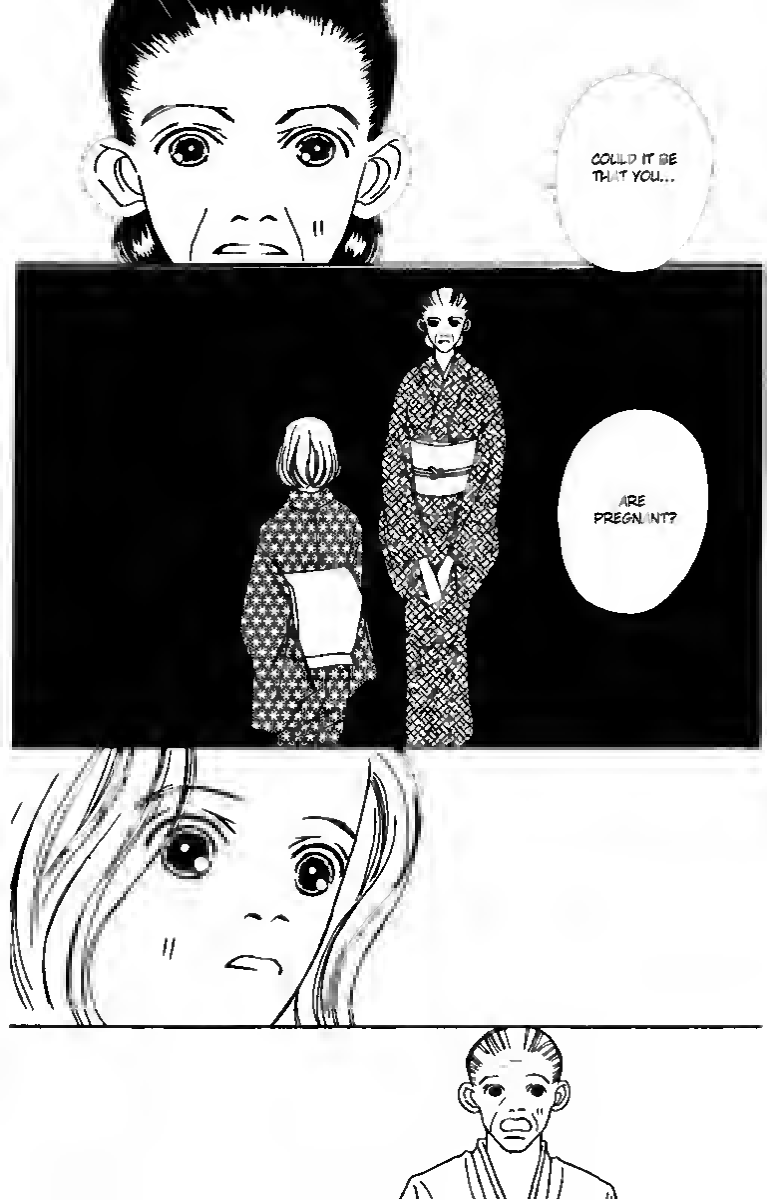

.....
.....
287 YEN?!
THIS IS THE BANK ACCOUNT OF SOMEONE WHO'S GETTING MARRIED! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU!
LUNCH BREAK?
YEAH, JOIN ME, ONEE-CHAN
BUT YOU'RE PAYING FOR MY WEDDING AND EVERYTHING AND AFTER WE MARRY, RENT AND FOOD WON'T BE A PROBLEM, EITHER
AREN'T YOU GOING TO HAVE ANYTHING PREPARED AT ALL?
I THINK I'LL PASS
THEN CAN I HAVE YOUR GYOZA?
NO APPETITE?
You don't like meat anyway

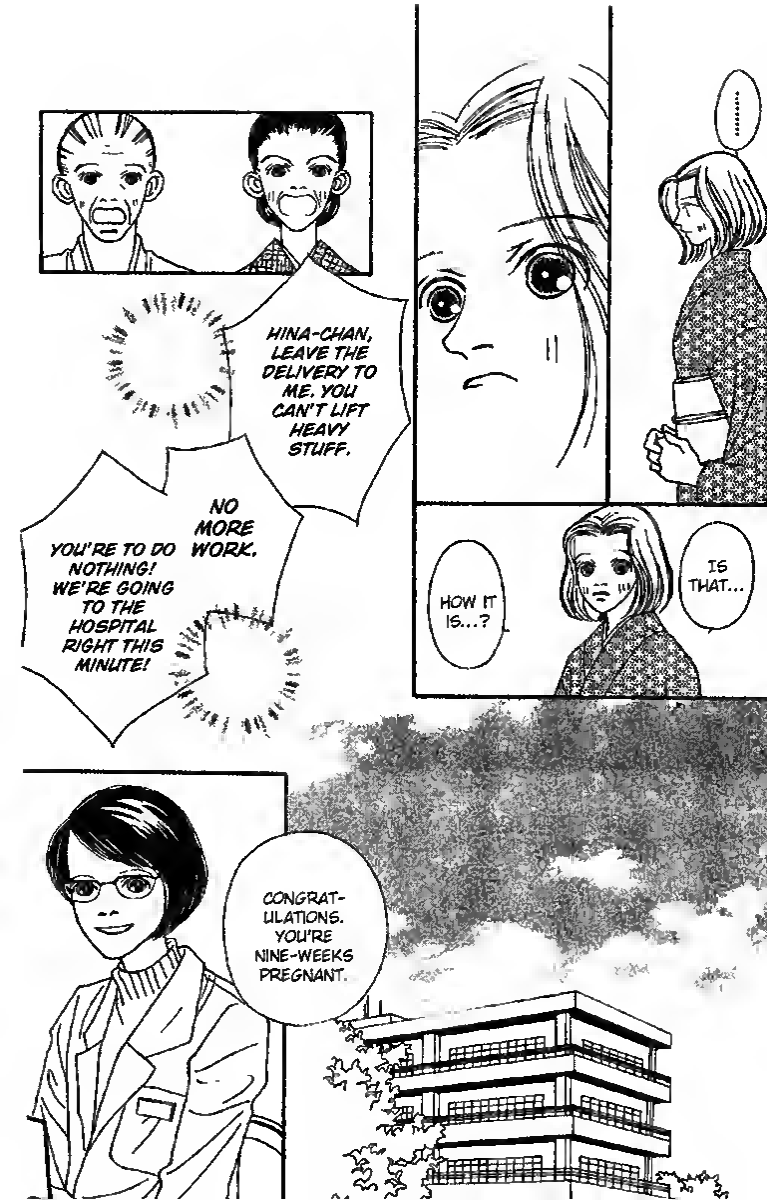
ARARE! LISTEN WHEN I'M SPEAK-ING TO YOU!
HEY! I SAW ONEE-CHAN'S GYOZA FIRST. BACK OFF!
.....
MEAT, JUNK FOOD...
EVEN NATTO AND CELERY ARE NO-NO'S.
ONEE-CHAN, YOU'VE BEEN A PICKY EATER SINCE YOU WERE A KID.
AH! NO LOOKING DOWN ON ME, LADY. I HID THIS FROM MOM SO SHE DIDN'T KNOW THAT I'M SUPER RICH!
I DON'T NEED PITY FROM SOMEONE WHO ONLY HAS 287 YEN IN HER BANK ACCOUNT
MEAT IS YUMMY!
I PITY YOU FOR NOT WANTING IT
Ah, bliss ~

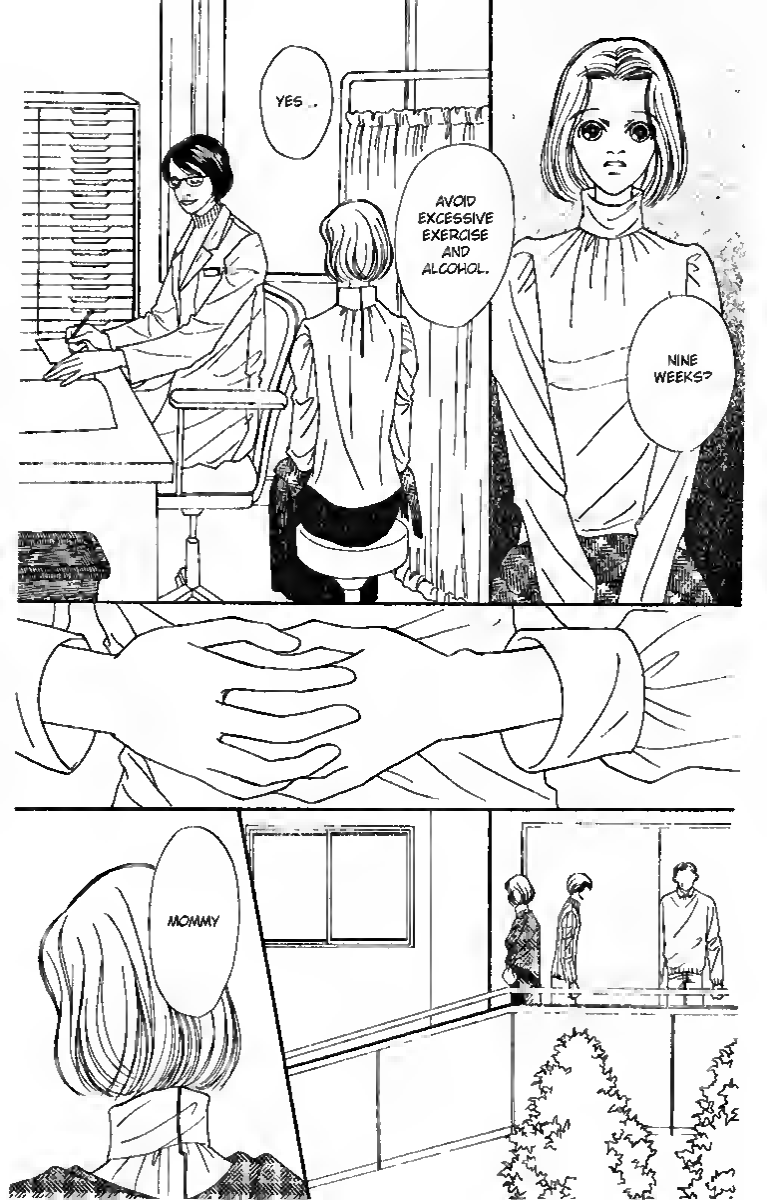
SEE? 10,000 YEN!
I'M GONNA BET THIS BABY AT THE SPECIAL HORSE DERBY.
THAT is super rich?
Wa ha ha she has no idea or she'll take it away from me
IDIOT I'LL GO DELIVER WAGASHI.
DON'T WORRY, DON'T WORRY. I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOUR PORTION!
ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT LUNCH?
I'M FINE.
IS THAT REALLY ALRIGHT?
ONE PERSON DOESN'T EAT AND THE OTHER EATS TOO MUCH
Yummy ~
Happy Hm Hm
COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTHING SINCE YESTERDAY'S LUNCH.

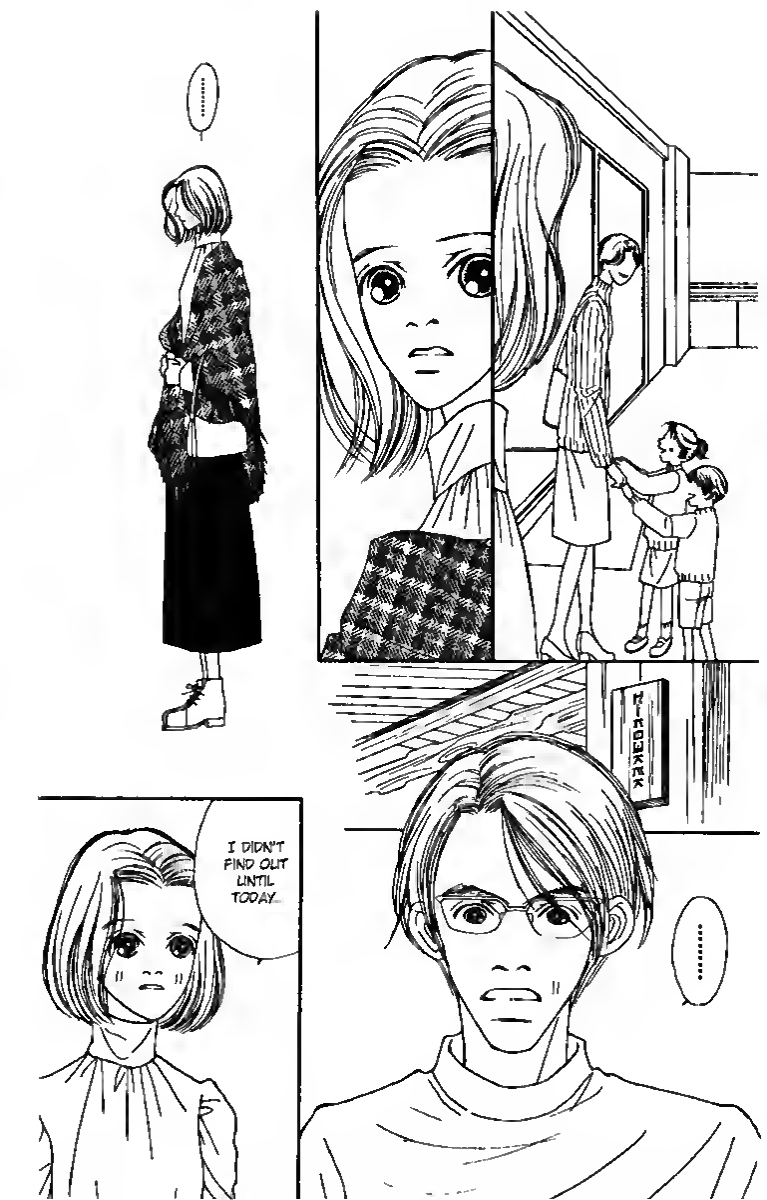

SOME-THING IS WRONG WITH MY BODY...
AM I GOING TO GET ANOTHER FEVER?
HAVE A SAFE TRIP
OH, HINA-CHAN GOING OUT TO DELIVER KATOU-SAN'S ORDER?
I FEEL NAUSEATED TOO...
clatter
HINA-CHAN!!
WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU SICK?
WHAT HAPPENED?


MADAM, HINA-CHAN SHE ..
I'M FINE ..
IT'S PROBABLY JUST LOW BLOOD SUGAR. I HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTHING SINCE
SINCE YESTERDAY?! YOU WERE AT THE TABLE JUST NOW AND YOU DIDN'T EAT ANYTHING?!
YOU'RE NOT A CHILD ANYMORE. STOP BEING SO PICKY ABOUT YOUR FOOD. NO WONDER YOU FELT LIGHT-HEADED.
MIGHT BE THE SAME OLD FEVER. I FEEL NAUSEATED ALL THE TIME, TOO. I DON'T WANT TO EAT ANYTHING.
FEVER ...?
IT COULD BE A COLD OR JUST MY USUAL FEVER.
BUT THIS TIME I WANT TO THROW UP TOO
.....


COULD IT BE THAT YOU...
ARE PREGNANT?

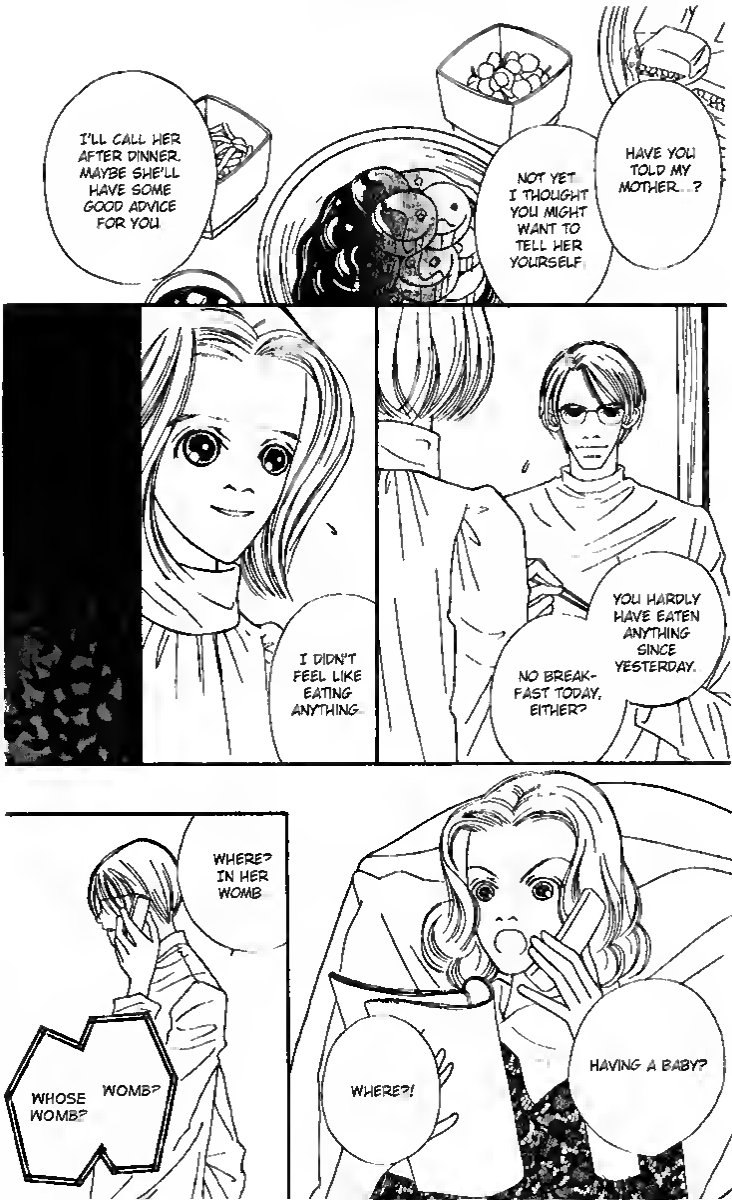

HINA-CHAN, LEAVE THE DELIVERY TO ME. YOU CAN'T LIFT HEAVY STUFF.
NO MORE WORK.
YOU'RE TO DO NOTHING! WE'RE GOING TO THE HOSPITAL RIGHT THIS MINUTE!
.....
HOW IT IS...?
IS THAT...
CONGRAT-ULATIONS. YOU'RE NINE-WEEKS PREGNANT.

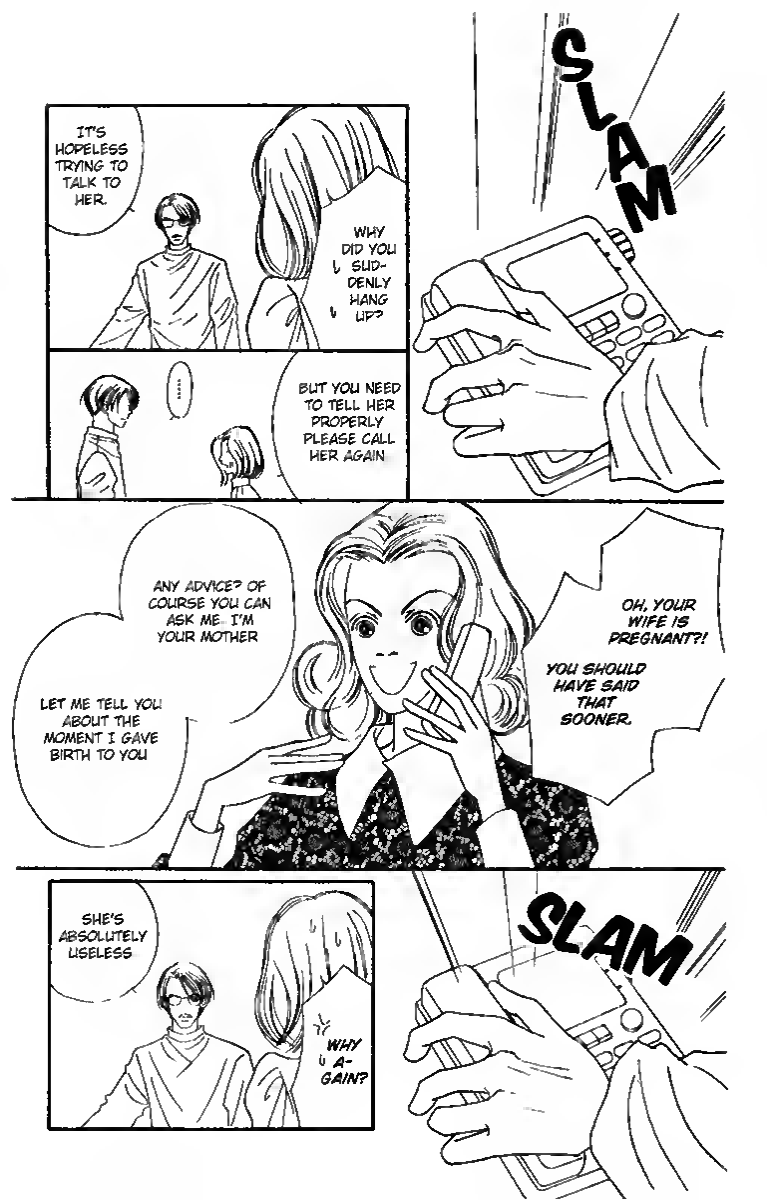

YES..
AVOID EXCESSIVE EXERCISE AND ALCOHOL.
NINE WEEKS?
MOMMY


.....
NIKOWIKI
I DIDN'T FIND OUT UNTIL TODAY...
.....

BUT EVEN SO, HIS WORDS WERE VERY GENTLE AND CARING...

IT'S NATURAL THAT HE'LL FEEL A LITTLE NERVOUS.

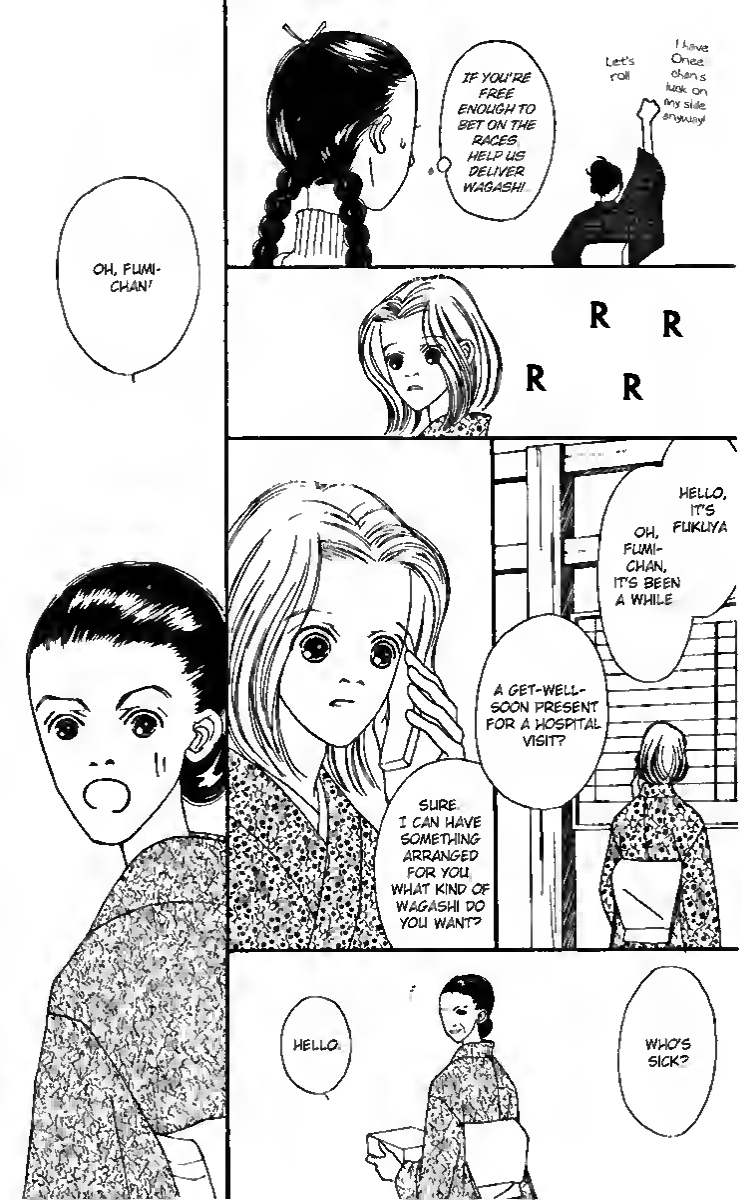

I'LL CALL HER AFTER DINNER. MAYBE SHE'LL HAVE SOME GOOD ADVICE FOR YOU.
NOT YET. I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WANT TO TELL HER YOURSELF.
HAVE YOU TOLD MY MOTHER...?
I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE EATING ANYTHING.
NO BREAK-FAST TODAY, EITHER?
YOU HARDLY HAVE EATEN ANYTHING SINCE YESTERDAY.
WHERE? IN HER WOMB
WHOSE WOMB?
WOMB?
WHERE?!
HAVING A BABY?


IT'S HOPELESS TRYING TO TALK TO HER.
WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY HANG UP?
BUT YOU NEED TO TELL HER PROPERLY PLEASE CALL HER AGAIN
SLAM
ANY ADVICE? OF COURSE YOU CAN ASK ME. I'M YOUR MOTHER
LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT THE MOMENT I GAVE BIRTH TO YOU
OH, YOUR WIFE IS PREGNANT?!
YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID THAT SOONER.
SHE'S ABSOLUTELY USELESS
WHY A-GAIN?
SLAM

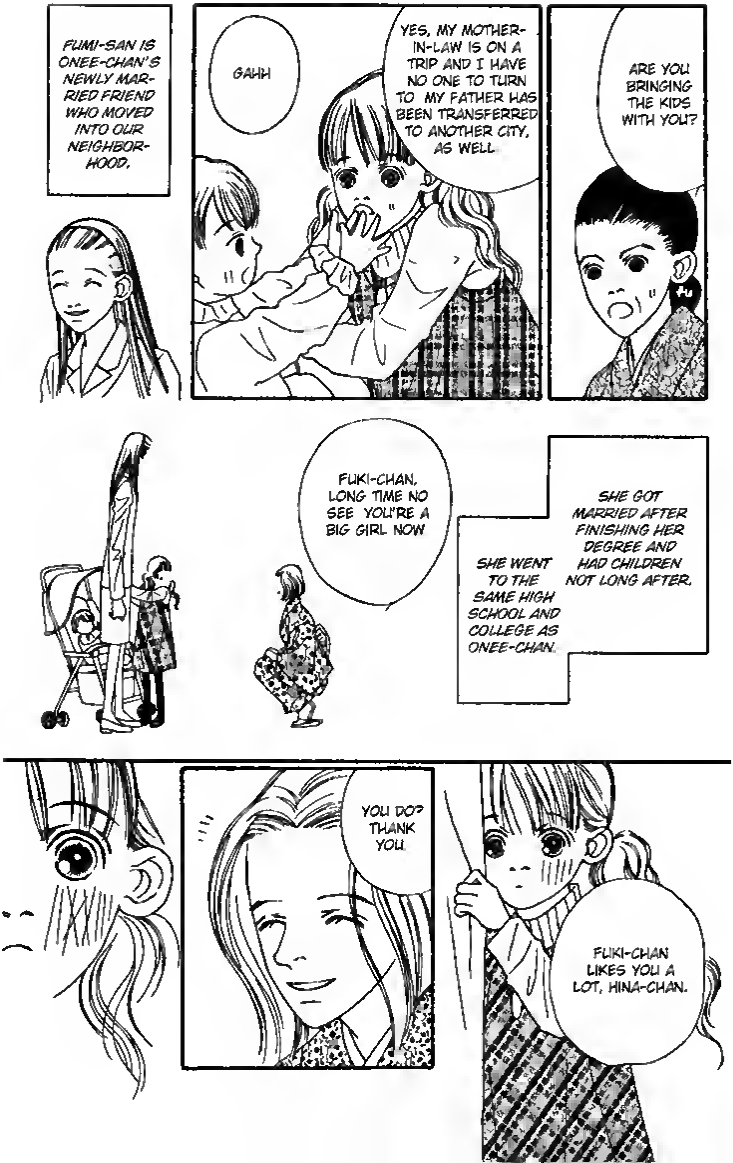
CONGRATULATIONS, ONEE-CHAN!
IN THE SPECIAL DERBY, WHICH ONE WILL WIN THE RACE?
I HEARD FROM MOM YESTERDAY.
A BOY OR A GIRL? IS HINOYAMA-SAN HAPPY?
YEAH.
ONEE-CHAN, LET ME ASK YOU BEFORE I FORGET.
DERBY...?
YEAH, PLEASE PICK ONE FOR ME.
WHY ME?

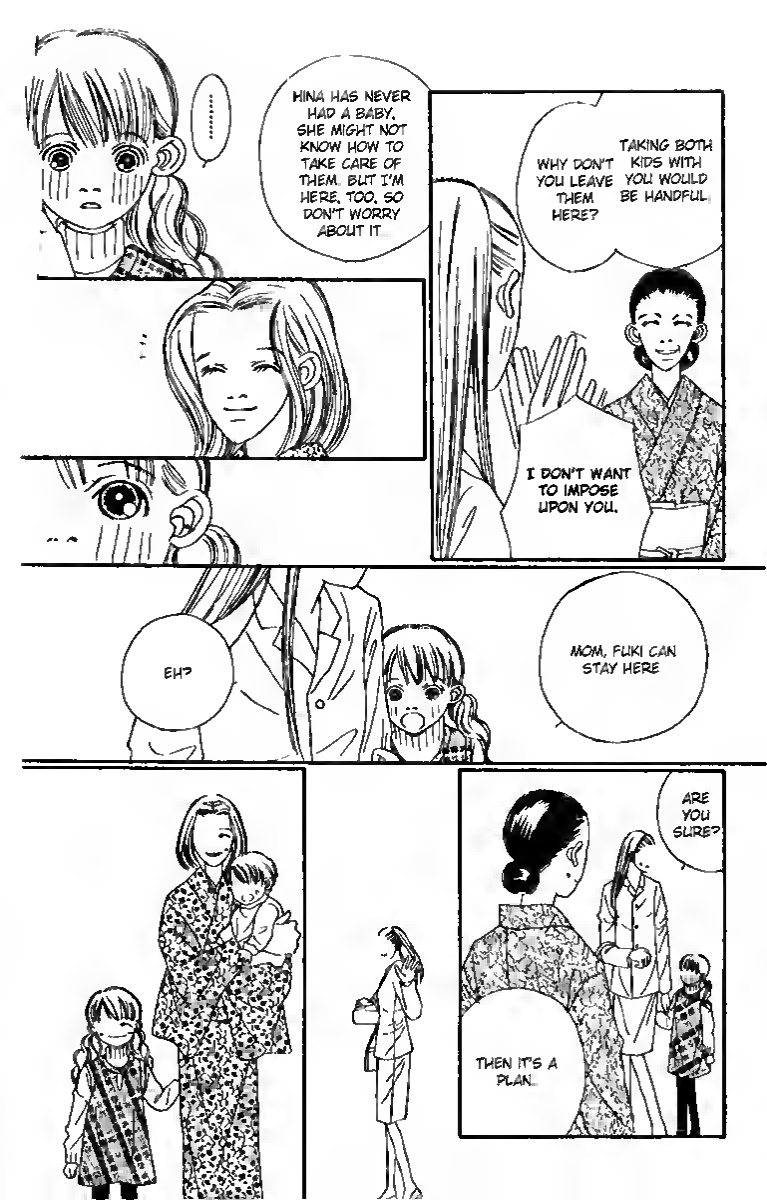
PRETTY PLEASE? CIRCLE IT WITH THE RED MARKER.
BECAUSE THEY SAY PREGNANT WOMEN BRING GOOD LUCK.
ESPE-CIALLY GAMBLING LUCK
EHP
What did Ojii-san say ?
We only spoke on the phone but I could tell he was very happy
She just won't help me.
IS IT GOING TO BE ALRIGHT?
WHAT?
ONEE -CHAN'S HELPING OUT AT THE SHOP WILL SHE BE ALRIGHT?
OH, THAT. IT'S HINOYAMA-SAN'S REQUEST THAT SHE KEEPS WORKING HERE
IT'D BE WORSE IF SOMETHING HAPPENED WHILE SHE'S HOME ALONE

YOU SHOULD HELP US WITH DELIVERIES FROM NOW ON.
OH, "SPECIAL SUNDAY" IS LOSING POPULARITY. HE HASN'T PERFORMED WELL LATELY. I CAN SEE WHY SO FEW PEOPLE ARE BETTING ON HIM...
I SEE.
OKAMURA-SAN ONLY WORKS ON WEEKDAYS
STAYING HERE IS WAY MORE COMFORTING THAN LIVING IN THAT BIG HOUSE ALONE
THERE'S SOME-THING ABOUT THIS NAME...
Enzel Wing
Lya
Special Sunday
Plop
BUT SOMEHOW THE NAME SOUNDS STRANGELY GOOD TO ME.
HIS PERFORMANCE HAS NEVER BEEN OUT-STANDING.
ENZEL WING
?
RISE
ALRIGHT!

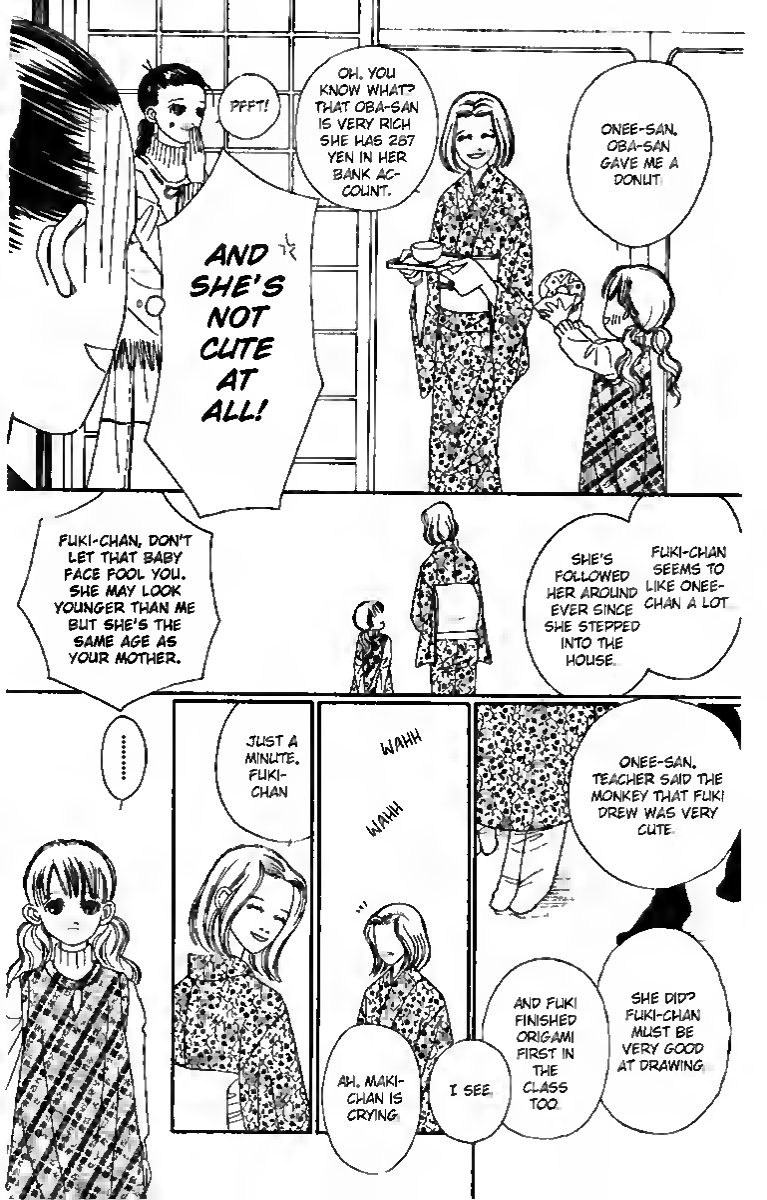

IF YOU'RE FREE ENOUGH TO BET ON THE RACES, HELP US DELIVER WAGASHI.
Let's roll
I have Onee-chan's luck on my side anyway!
OH, FUMI-CHAN!
R R R R
HELLO, IT'S FUKUYA
OH, FUMI-CHAN, IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
A GET-WELL-SOON PRESENT FOR A HOSPITAL VISIT?
SURE. I CAN HAVE SOMETHING ARRANGED FOR YOU. WHAT KIND OF WAGASHI DO YOU WANT?
HELLO.
WHO'S SICK?

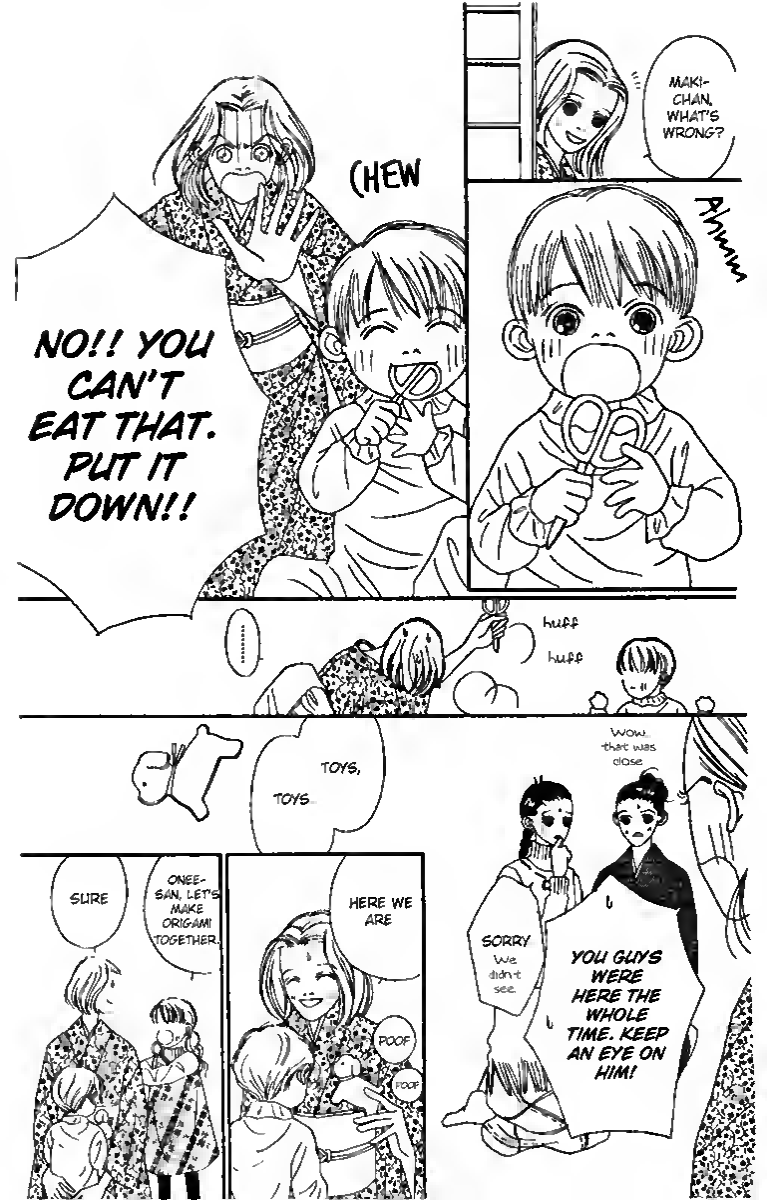
I CALLED HINA-CHAN EARLIER
LONG TIME NO SEE, OBA-SAN.
COME IN. I'VE PREPARED IT
MY, FUKI-CHAN, MAKI-CHAN, LOOK HOW YOU'VE GROWN!
YOU'RE RIGHT.
WHAT HAPPENED?
DON'T MENTION IT. BUT HOW AWFUL!
SORRY TO TROUBLE YOU SO SUDDENLY
OH, I'M SORRY TO HEAR HE'S HURT.
I HEARD HE LIKES THE FUKUYA'S WAGASHI SO I ASKED HINA-CHAN TO HELP ME CHOOSE A GIFT.
MY HUSBAND'S BOSS BROKE HIS LEG. I'M ON MY WAY TO VISIT HIM AT THE HOSPITAL.


FUMI-SAN IS ONEE-CHAN'S NEWLY MARRIED FRIEND WHO MOVED INTO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.
GAHH
YES, MY MOTHER-IN-LAW IS ON A TRIP AND I HAVE NO ONE TO TURN TO. MY FATHER HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER CITY, AS WELL.
ARE YOU BRINGING THE KIDS WITH YOU?
FUKI-CHAN, LONG TIME NO SEE. YOU'RE A BIG GIRL NOW.
SHE WENT TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE AS ONEE-CHAN.
SHE GOT MARRIED AFTER FINISHING HER DEGREE AND HAD CHILDREN NOT LONG AFTER.
YOU DO? THANK YOU.
FUKI-CHAN LIKES YOU A LOT, HINA-CHAN.

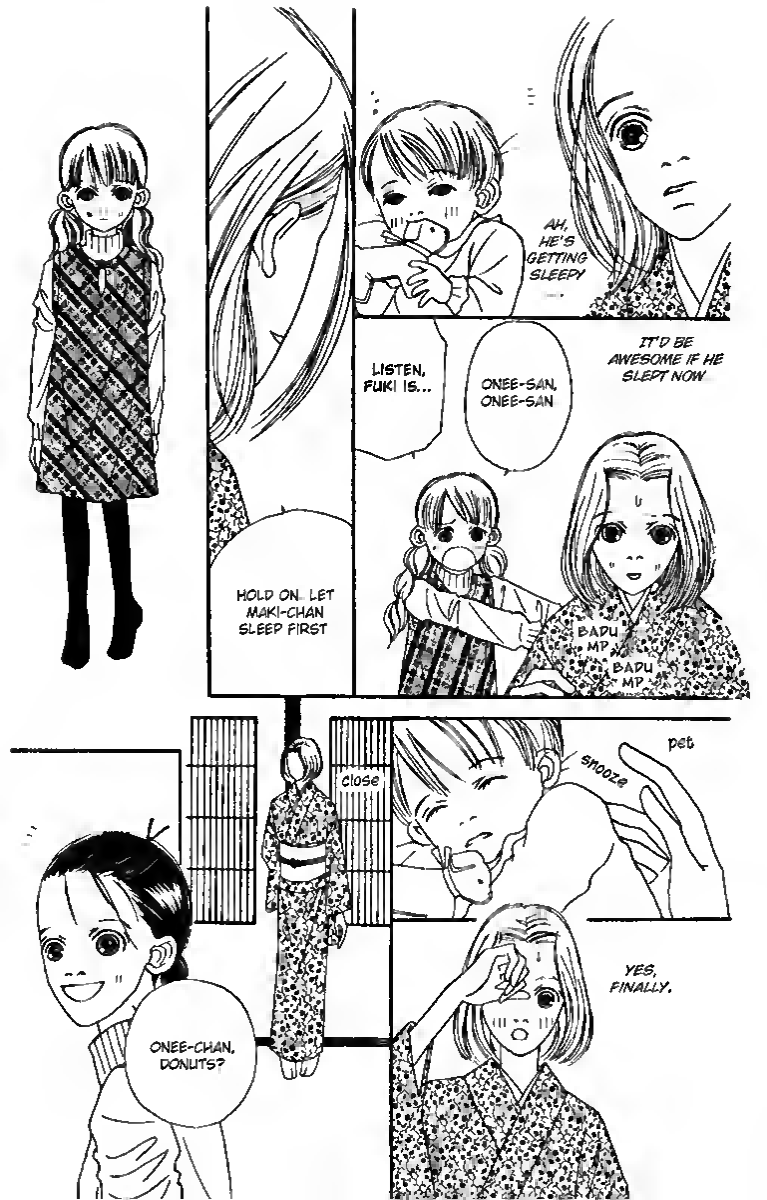

.....
HINA HAS NEVER HAD A BABY. SHE MIGHT NOT KNOW HOW TO TAKE CARE OF THEM. BUT I'M HERE, TOO. SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE THEM HERE?
TAKING BOTH KIDS WITH YOU WOULD BE HANDFUL.
I DON'T WANT TO IMPOSE UPON YOU.
EH?
MOM, FUKI CAN STAY HERE
ARE YOU SURE?
THEN IT'S A PLAN.

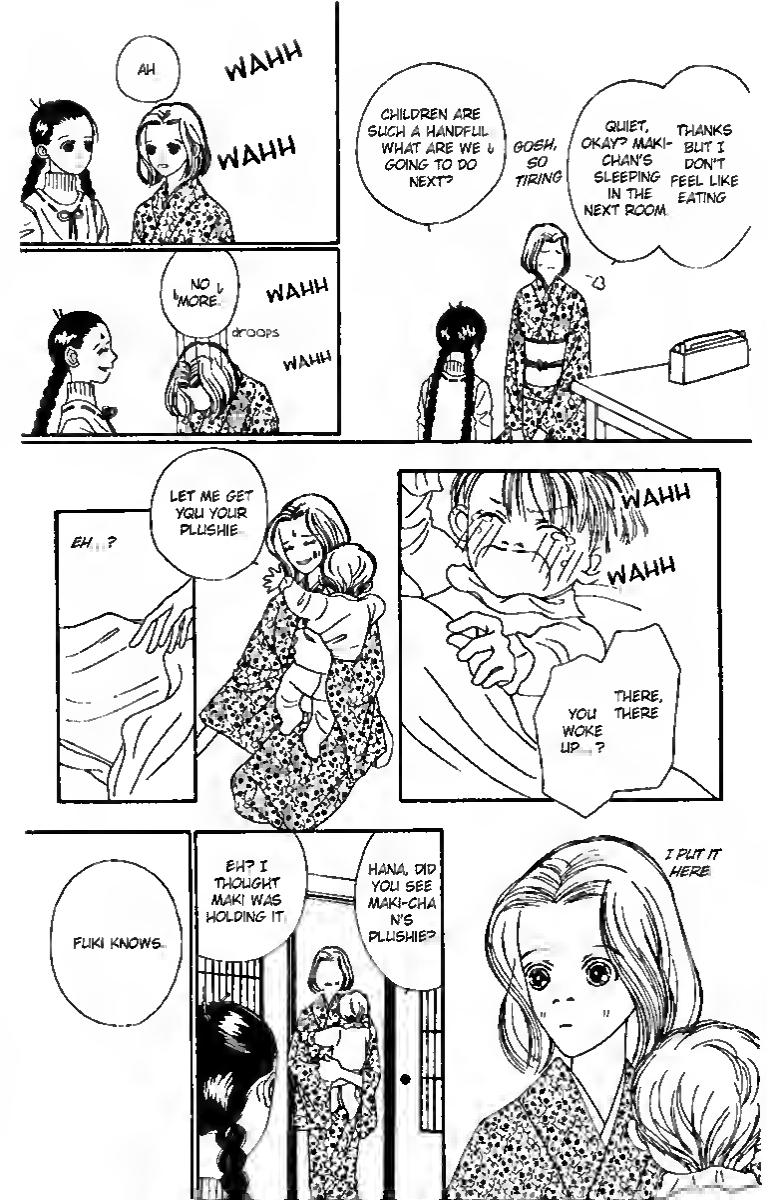
I'M HOME.
HANA, I BOUGHT DONUTS. WANNA EAT? I'm hungry now.
WHAT?! WHEN DID YOU GIVE BIRTH TO THE BABY?
And there's two of them!
THEY'RE FUMI-CHAN'S CHILDREN, FUKI-CHAN AND MAKI-CHAN.
SHE LEFT THEM WITH US FOR THE AFTER-NOON.
I SEE. YOU GAVE ME A FRIGHT
THANK YOU.
CUTE---
FUKI-CHAN, WANT SOME DONUTS?

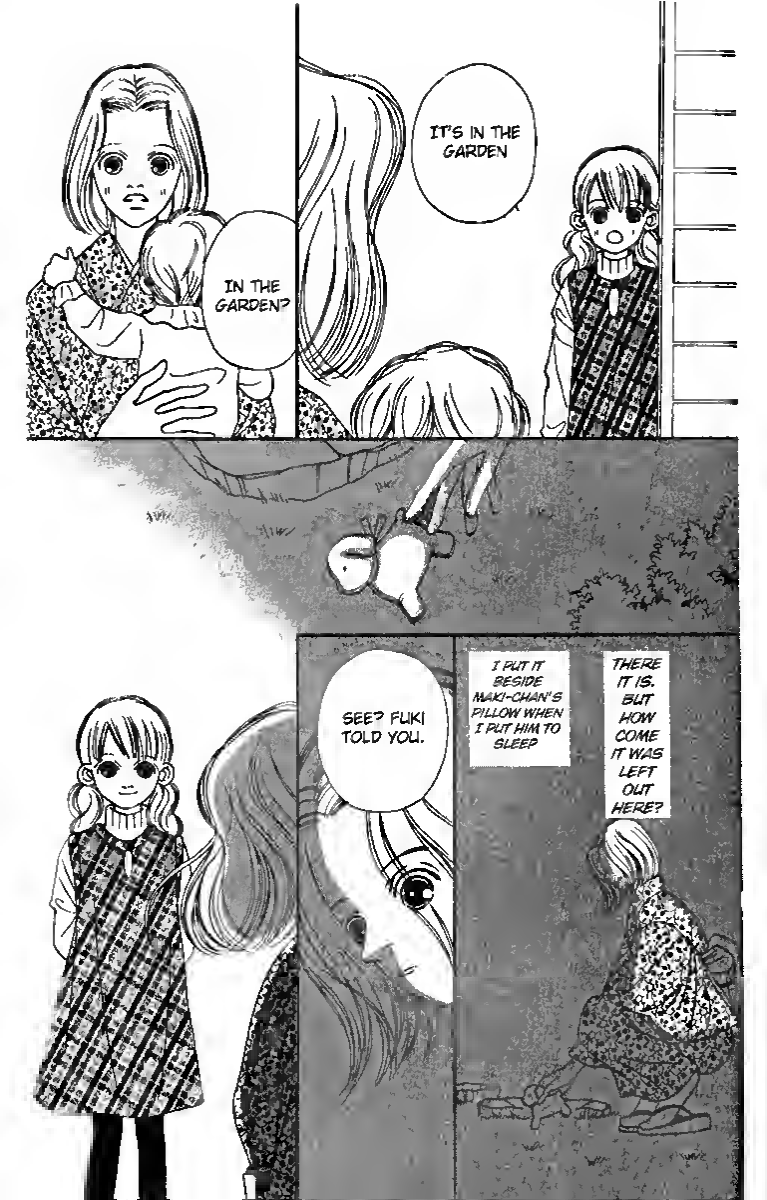

PFFT!
OH, YOU KNOW WHAT? THAT OBA-SAN IS VERY RICH SHE HAS 287 YEN IN HER BANK ACCOUNT.
AND SHE'S NOT CUTE AT ALL!
ONEE-SAN, OBA-SAN GAVE ME A DONUT.
FUKI-CHAN, DON'T LET THAT BABY FACE FOOL YOU. SHE MAY LOOK YOUNGER THAN ME BUT SHE'S THE SAME AGE AS YOUR MOTHER.
SHE'S FOLLOWED HER AROUND EVER SINCE SHE STEPPED INTO THE HOUSE.
FUKI-CHAN SEEMS TO LIKE ONEE-CHAN A LOT.
.....
JUST A MINUTE. FUKI-CHAN
WAHH
WAHH
ONEE-SAN, TEACHER SAID THE MONKEY THAT FUKI DREW WAS VERY CUTE.
AH, MAKI-CHAN IS CRYING.
I SEE.
AND FUKI FINISHED ORIGAMI FIRST IN THE CLASS TOO.
SHE DID? FUKI-CHAN MUST BE VERY GOOD AT DRAWING.

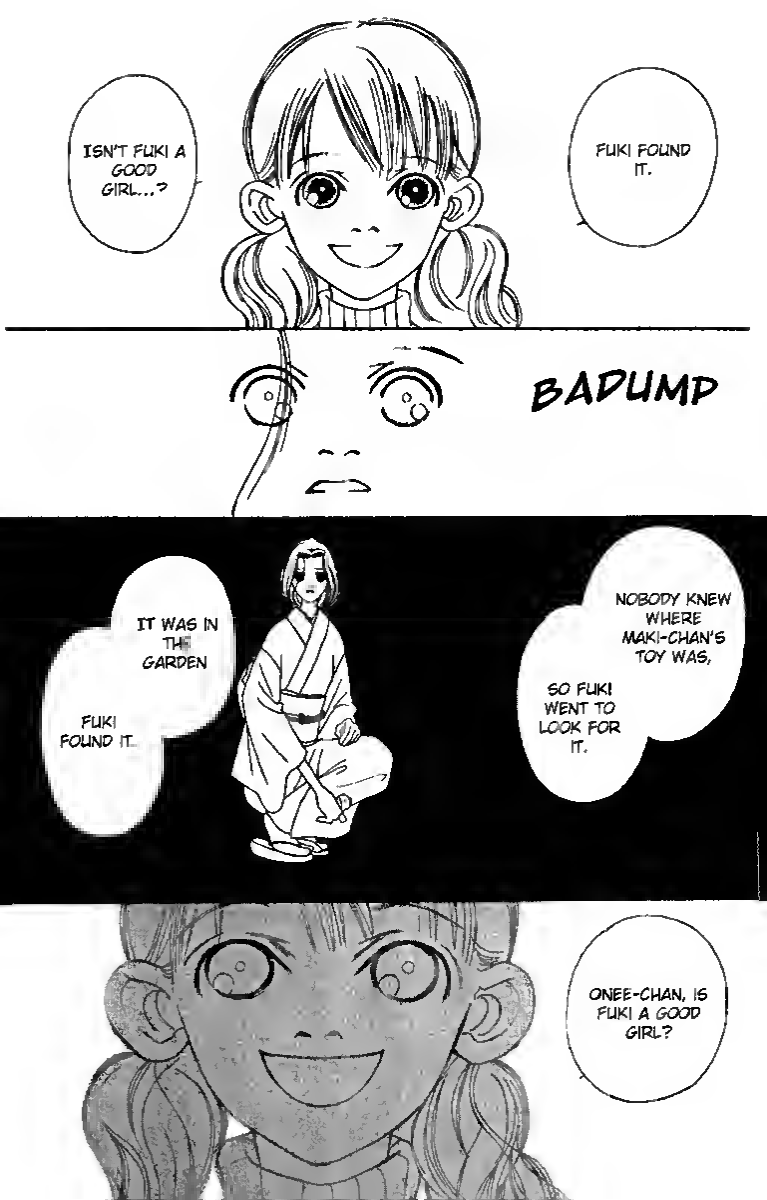

MAKI-CHAN, WHAT'S WRONG?
Ahhhhh
CHEW
NO!! YOU CAN'T EAT THAT. PUT IT DOWN!!
huff huff
TOYS, TOYS
Wow, that was close
SORRY We didn't see.
YOU GUYS WERE HERE THE WHOLE TIME. KEEP AN EYE ON HIM!
SURE
ONEE-SAN, LET'S MAKE ORIGAMI TOGETHER.
HERE WE ARE
POOF
POOF

YOU TWO, TIDY UP THE ROOM NOW!
OK
HM?
THEN, THIS
FIRST YOU FOLD THIS
THIS IS MORE WORK THAN I THOUGHT
NO! YOU CAN'T EAT THAT!
I'M SORRY, FUKI-CHAN. CAN YOU PLAY ALONE FOR A WHILE?
I NEED TO CHANGE MAKI-CHAN'S DIAPER.
DA
DA
ONEE-SAN, WE HAVEN'T FINISHED MAKING ORIGAMI.
I CHANGED YOURS
WHAT...?
WOW! ONEE-CHAN, YOU KNOW HOW TO CHANGE A DIAPER?
.....

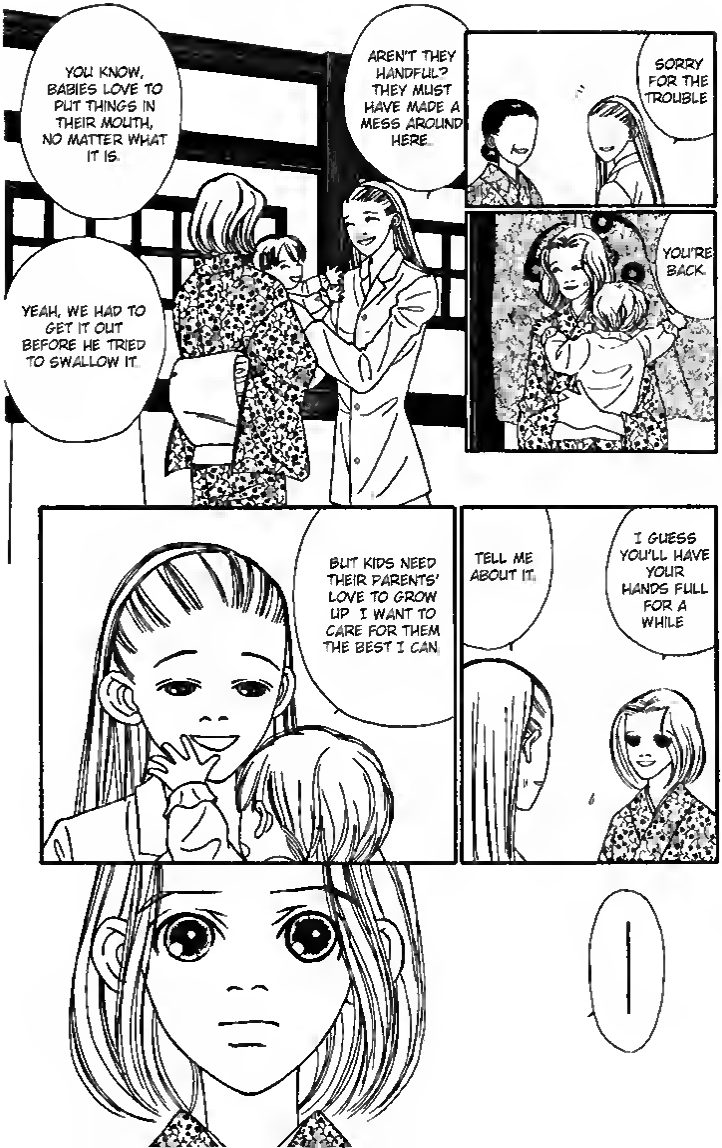

AH, HE'S GETTING SLEEPY
IT'D BE AWESOME IF HE SLEPT NOW
LISTEN, FUKI IS...
ONEE-SAN, ONEE-SAN
HOLD ON. LET MAKI-CHAN SLEEP FIRST
BADU MP
BADU MP
pet
SMOOZE
CLOSE
YES, FINALLY.
ONEE-CHAN, DONUTS?


AH
WAHH
WAHH
NO MORE
WAHH
droops
WAHH
CHILDREN ARE SUCH A HANDFUL WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NEXT?
GOSH, SO TIRING
QUIET, OKAY? MAKI-CHAN'S SLEEPING IN THE NEXT ROOM
THANKS BUT I DON'T FEEL LIKE EATING
EH...?
LET ME GET YOU YOUR PLUSHIE
WAHH
WAHH
YOU WOKE UP...?
THERE, THERE
FUKI KNOWS
EH? I THOUGHT MAKI WAS HOLDING IT
HANA, DID YOU SEE MAKI-CHAN'S PLUSHIE?
I PUT IT HERE


IN THE GARDEN?
IT'S IN THE GARDEN
THERE IT IS. BUT HOW COME IT WAS LEFT OUT HERE?
I PUT IT BESIDE MAKI-CHAN'S PILLOW WHEN I PUT HIM TO SLEEP
SEE? FUKI TOLD YOU.

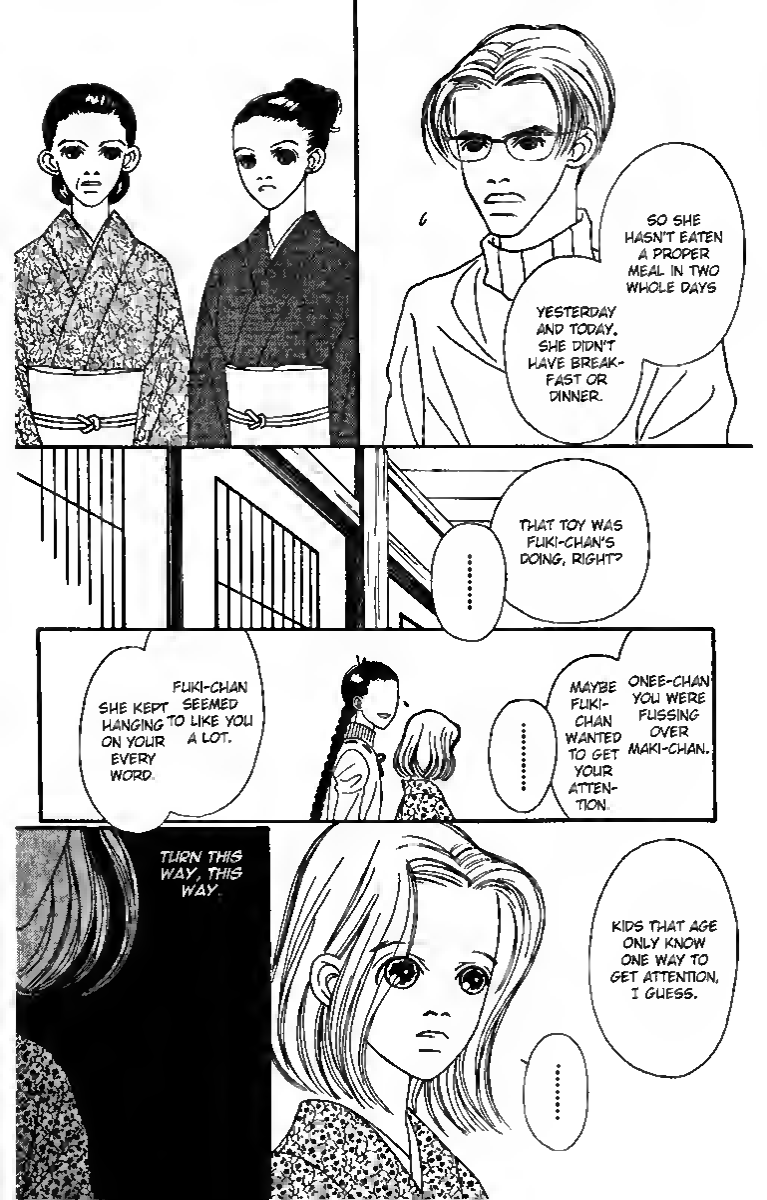

ISN'T FUKI A GOOD GIRL...?
FUKI FOUND IT.
BADUMP
NOBODY KNEW WHERE MAKI-CHAN'S TOY WAS,
SO FUKI WENT TO LOOK FOR IT.
IT WAS IN THE GARDEN
FUKI FOUND IT.
ONEE-CHAN, IS FUKI A GOOD GIRL?

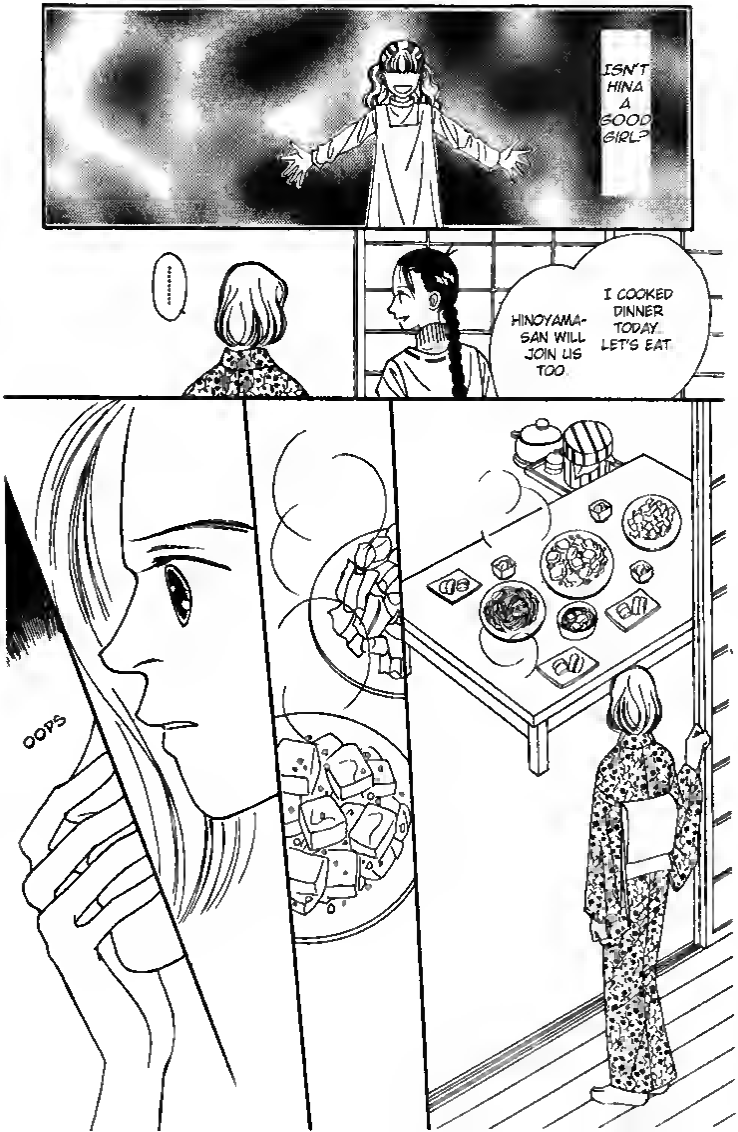
YEAH, YOU'RE A GOOD GIRL FUKI-CHAN
BUZZ
FUKI-CHAN, YOUR MOTHER IS BACK
ONEE-CHAN, FUMI-SAN IS HERE
ISN'T IT GREAT?
GO SEE YOUR MOTHER.


SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE
ARENT THEY HANDFUL? THEY MUST HAVE MADE A MESS AROUND HERE..
YOU KNOW, BABIES LOVE TO PUT THINGS IN THEIR MOUTH, NO MATTER WHAT IT IS.
YOU'RE BACK.
YEAH, WE HAD TO GET IT OUT BEFORE HE TRIED TO SWALLOW IT.
I GUESS YOU'LL HAVE YOUR HANDS FULL FOR A WHILE
TELL ME ABOUT IT.
BUT KIDS NEED THEIR PARENTS' LOVE TO GROW UP. I WANT TO CARE FOR THEM THE BEST I CAN.
I

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR TODAY, OBA-SAN, HINA-CHAN
YOU'RE WELCOME. COME AGAIN.
GOOD EVENING.
SEE YOU LATER, FUKI-CHAN.
!
.....
MOM, DINNER IS READY
THANKS.
SHOULD WE CLOSE THE SHOP?
OKAY.
I'LL DO IT.

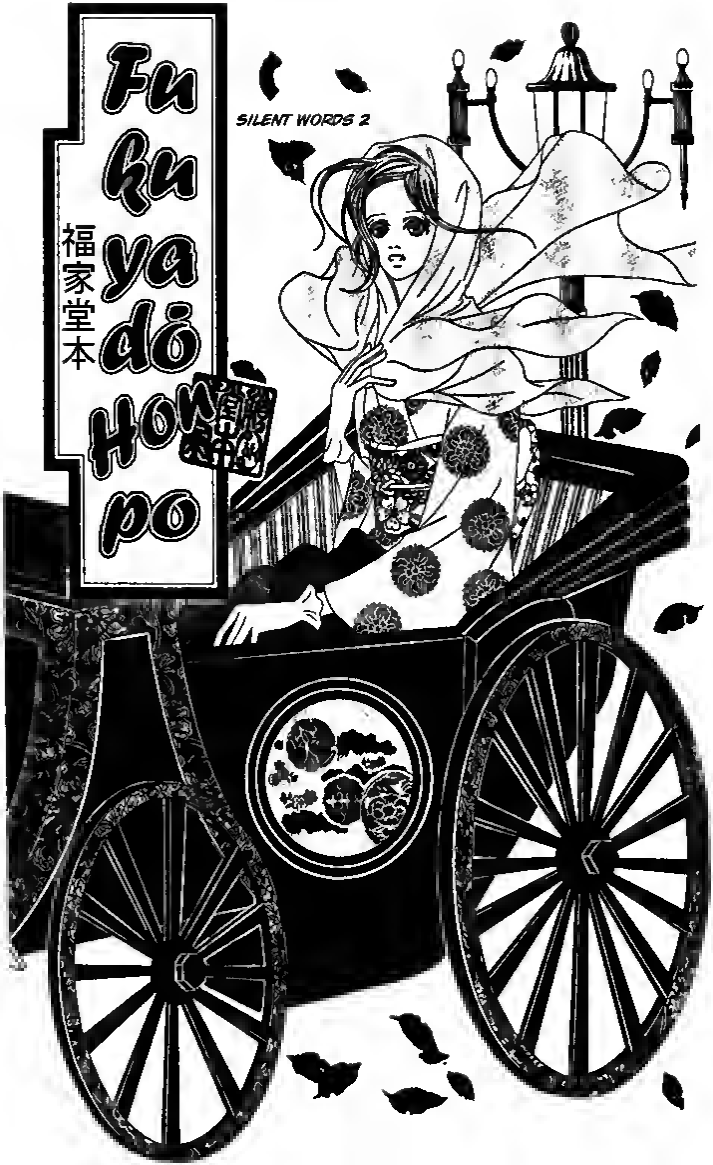
ONEE-CHAN IS SO BRAVE, RISKING HAVING HINOYAMA-SAN'S BABY
THANK YOU.
WHY DON'T YOU STAY FOR DINNER? IT'LL SAVE HINA THE TROUBLE TOO.
I CAME HOME EARLY TODAY SO I CAME TO PICK UP HINA-SAN.
OH, COME IN.
YOU!
He's about to risk his whole life.
MAYBE NOT AS BRAVE AS KENJI-SAN
NO, SHE DIDN'T. I KEEP TELLING HER IT'S NOT GOOD FOR HER HEALTH.
SPEAKING OF FOOD, DID HINA-SAN EAT LUNCH?
.....


SO SHE HASN'T EATEN A PROPER MEAL IN TWO WHOLE DAYS
YESTERDAY AND TODAY. SHE DIDN'T HAVE BREAK-FAST OR DINNER.
THAT TOY WAS FUKI-CHAN'S DOING, RIGHT?
.....
ONEE-CHAN YOU WERE FUSSING OVER MAKI-CHAN.
MAYBE FUKI-CHAN WANTED TO GET YOUR ATTEN-TION.
.....
FUKI-CHAN SEEMED TO LIKE YOU A LOT.
SHE KEPT HANGING ON YOUR EVERY WORD.
KIDS THAT AGE ONLY KNOW ONE WAY TO GET ATTENTION, I GUESS.
.....
TURN THIS WAY, THIS WAY.


ISN'T HINA A GOOOD GIRL?
.....
HINOYAMA-SAN WILL JOIN US TOO
I COOKED DINNER TODAY. LET'S EAT
OOPS

ONEE-CHAN...?
OOPS.
ONEE-CHAN.
MMB...
BLEHH...
COUGH
OR...
MORNING SICKNESS
MMB...
ARE YOU ALRIGHT? MORNING SICKNESS?

...SELF-
DISGUST?


Fukuyadō Honpo
福家堂本
SILENT WORDS 2

子持ち饅頭

Komochi Manjuu

Bun with Child en nside was served for weddings, wishing for many children
It was plain outside but then as you see all the children as inside

Fukuyadon Honpo
by YUCHI Yayomi

Scanned & Translated by Chihaya
Cleaned by Paralda, Kaitouace
Proof-read by Maverick
Edited by Kaitouace
Quality checked by Kilmonian

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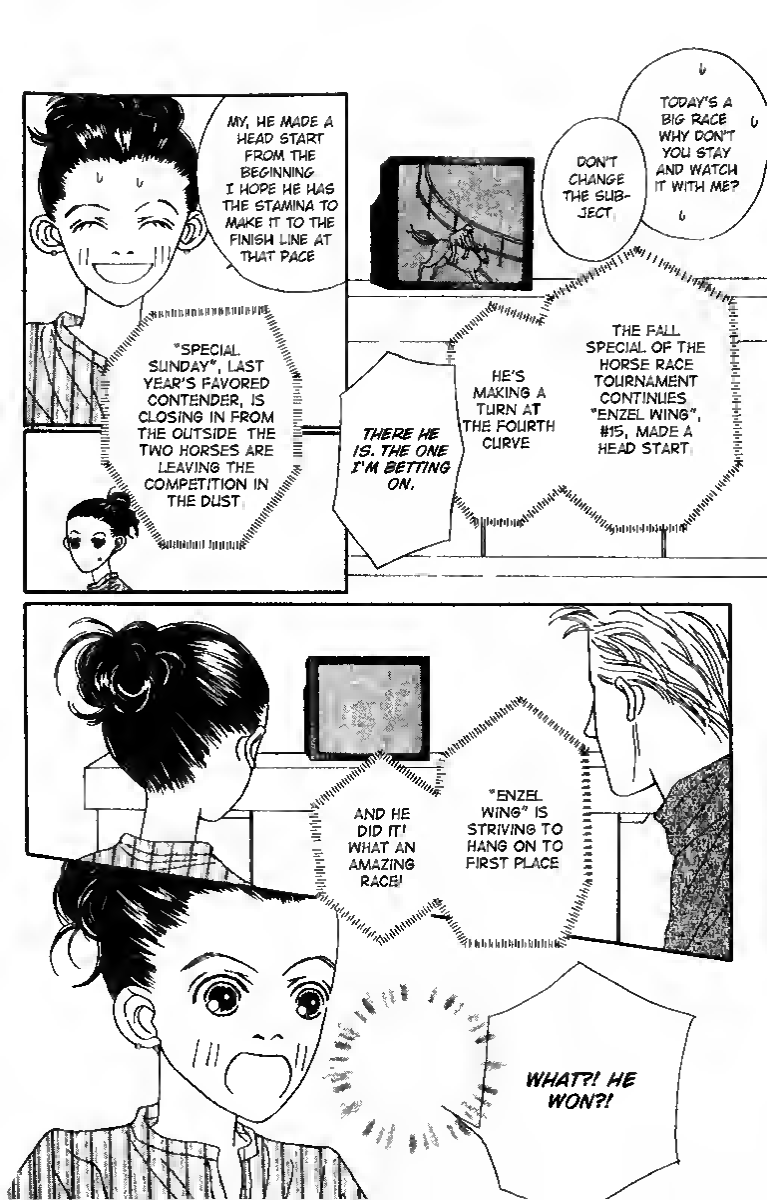
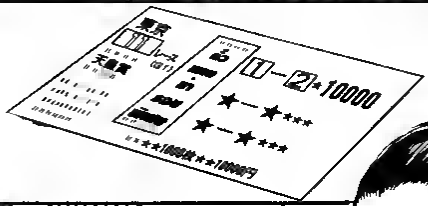
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALRIGHT?
I'M MUCH BETTER NOW.
THAT'S A RELIEF. YOU SHOULD REST MORE WHEN WE GET HOME.
YES, I WILL.
.....

I HEARD THAT...
YOU ONLY HAVE 300 YEN IN YOUR BANK ACCOUNT
Eep
AND DIDN'T YOU BORROW MONEY FROM THE MADAM AND MISS HINA THAT YOU HAVEN'T PAID BACK YET?
Damn it. Why did he have to find out?!
NO, IT'S 287 YEN!
Which channel is it?
RELAX I'LL PAY THEM WITH THE MONEY I WIN FROM BETTING ON THE RACES
beep
YOU'RE IMPOS-SIBLE
YOU SHOULD!
NOPE!
YOU'RE AN ADULT NOW, GIVE THE MADAM SOME PEACE OF MIND FOR ONCE!
DOES IT MAKE ANY DIFFER-ENCE?!!


TODAY'S A BIG RACE. WHY DON'T YOU STAY AND WATCH IT WITH ME?
DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT.
MY, HE MADE A HEAD START FROM THE BEGINNING. I HOPE HE HAS THE STAMINA TO MAKE IT TO THE FINISH LINE AT THAT PACE.
THE FALL SPECIAL OF THE HORSE RACE TOURNAMENT CONTINUES. "ENZEL WING", #15, MADE A HEAD START.
HE'S MAKING A TURN AT THE FOURTH CURVE.
"SPECIAL SUNDAY", LAST YEAR'S FAVORED CONTENDER, IS CLOSING IN FROM THE OUTSIDE. THE TWO HORSES ARE LEAVING THE COMPETITION IN THE DUST.
THERE HE IS. THE ONE I'M BETTING ON.
"ENZEL WING" IS STRIVING TO HANG ON TO FIRST PLACE.
AND HE DID IT! WHAT AN AMAZING RACE!
WHAT?! HE WON?!

UNBELIEV-ABLE

YOU CAN CHECK THE DETAILS OF THE WINNING BET AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SCREEN.



I'LL PAY BACK THE MONEY I OWE YOU AND ONEE-CHAN. THE REST, PLEASE DO WHATEVER YOU LIKE WITH IT.

WHAT'S THIS?

THE WINNING TICKET FOR THE HORSE RACES. WE CAN USE THIS MONEY FOR MY WEDDING.

WILL THERE BE ANY-THING LEFT? DID THEY ISSUE THAT MANY TICKETS TODAY?

YEAH, 70,000.

70,000?!

I'LL LEAVE IT IN YOUR CARE.
GAK
...
700.. !!
THEN THIS TICKET WORTH..
10,000 YEN!
HOW MUCH DID YOU BET?
10,000 YEN.
ARARE'S LIFE IS LIKE THAT..
YESTERDAY THAT CHILD WAS PRACTICALLY PENNILESS
People usually gamble more after they've won
WE NEED TO KEEP HER AWAY FROM GAMBLING FOR A WHILE
.....
I'VE NEVER WON THAT MUCH MONEY IN MY LIFE.
GOSH, MY HEART WON'T STOP POUNDING
.....
PREGNANT WOMEN ARE GOOD
Thanks Onee-chan.
IT MUST BE ONEE-CHAN'S LUCK.

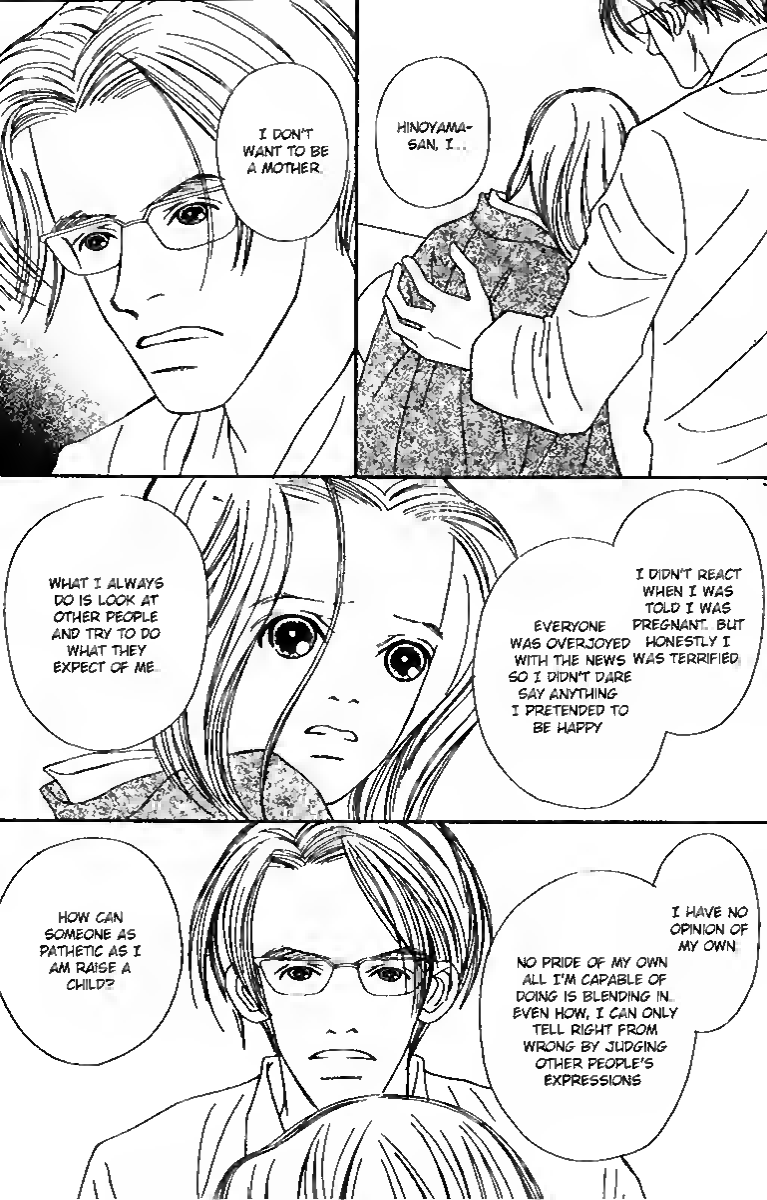
clack
.....
WHY DIDN'T YOU TURN THE LIGHTS ON?
BUT KIDS NEED THEIR PARENTS' LOVE TO GROW UP

I WAS FRIGHTENED NOT SEEING YOU WHEN I WOKE UP
I'M FINE.
THIS IS FROM MY MOTHER?
YES, SHE HAD SOMEONE DELIVER IT WHEN YOU WERE ASLEEP.
NOT EATING IS BAD FOR YOUR HEALTH.
EAT A LITTLE, OKAY?
BUT I'M NOT HUNGRY.
?

!
SCRAPE
.....
HE WANTS TO SHOW OFF HIS CATCH
WE SHOULD COMPLIMENT HIM.

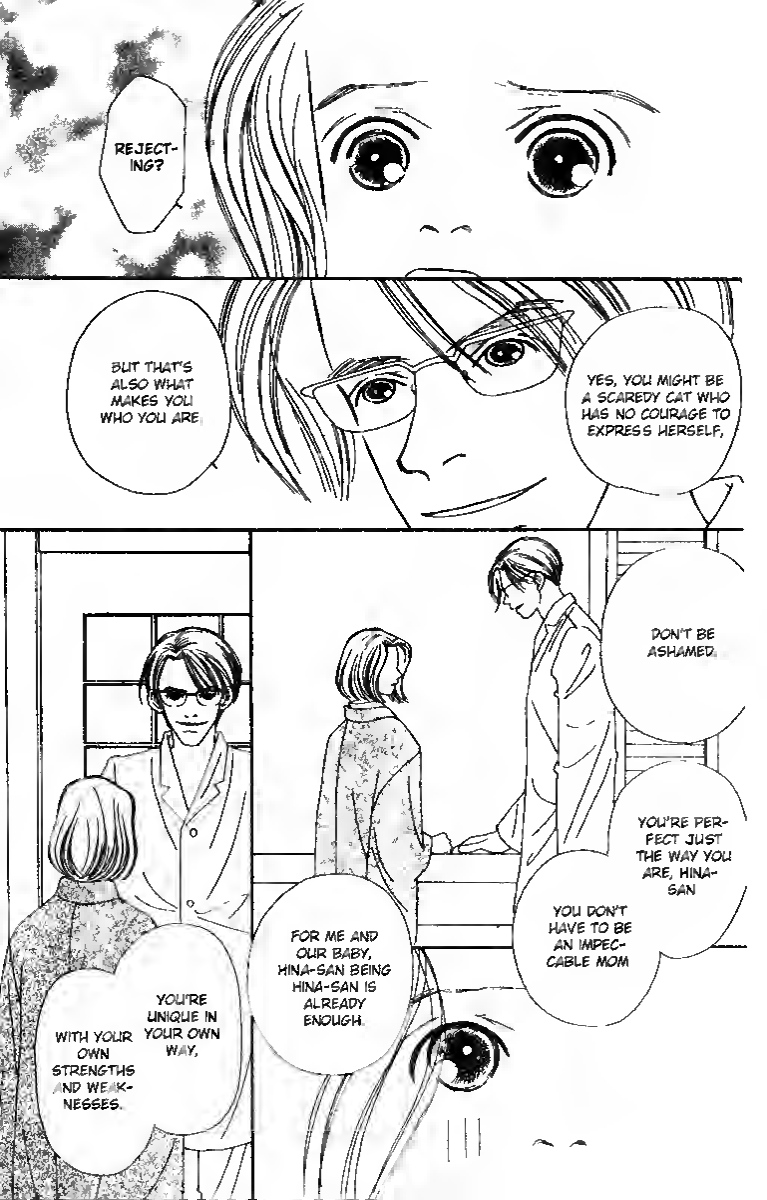
.....
ISN'T HINA A GOOD GIRL?
GOOD BOY. GOOD BOY
YOU'VE DONE VERY WELL FOR A KITTEN.
SO YOU HAVE TO GIVE ME YOUR ATTENTION, OKAY?
I'LL STUDY HARD AND HELP OUT IN THE SHOP.
I CAN BE EVEN BETTER IF YOU WANT, MOM.
BECAUSE HINA'S ALREADY THIS GOOD OF A GIRL.

MOM, PLEASE LOVE ME MORE AND MORE.
ZAA
PUKE PUKE
PUKE PUKE
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?


I DON'T WANT TO BE A MOTHER
HINOYAMA-SAN, I...
WHAT I ALWAYS DO IS LOOK AT OTHER PEOPLE AND TRY TO DO WHAT THEY EXPECT OF ME
I DIDN'T REACT WHEN I WAS TOLD I WAS PREGNANT. BUT HONESTLY I WAS TERRIFIED
EVERYONE WAS OVERJOYED WITH THE NEWS SO I DIDN'T DARE SAY ANYTHING I PRETENDED TO BE HAPPY
HOW CAN SOMEONE AS PATHETIC AS I AM RAISE A CHILD?
I HAVE NO OPINION OF MY OWN
NO PRIDE OF MY OWN ALL I'M CAPABLE OF DOING IS BLENDING IN. EVEN HOW, I CAN ONLY TELL RIGHT FROM WRONG BY JUDGING OTHER PEOPLE'S EXPRESSIONS

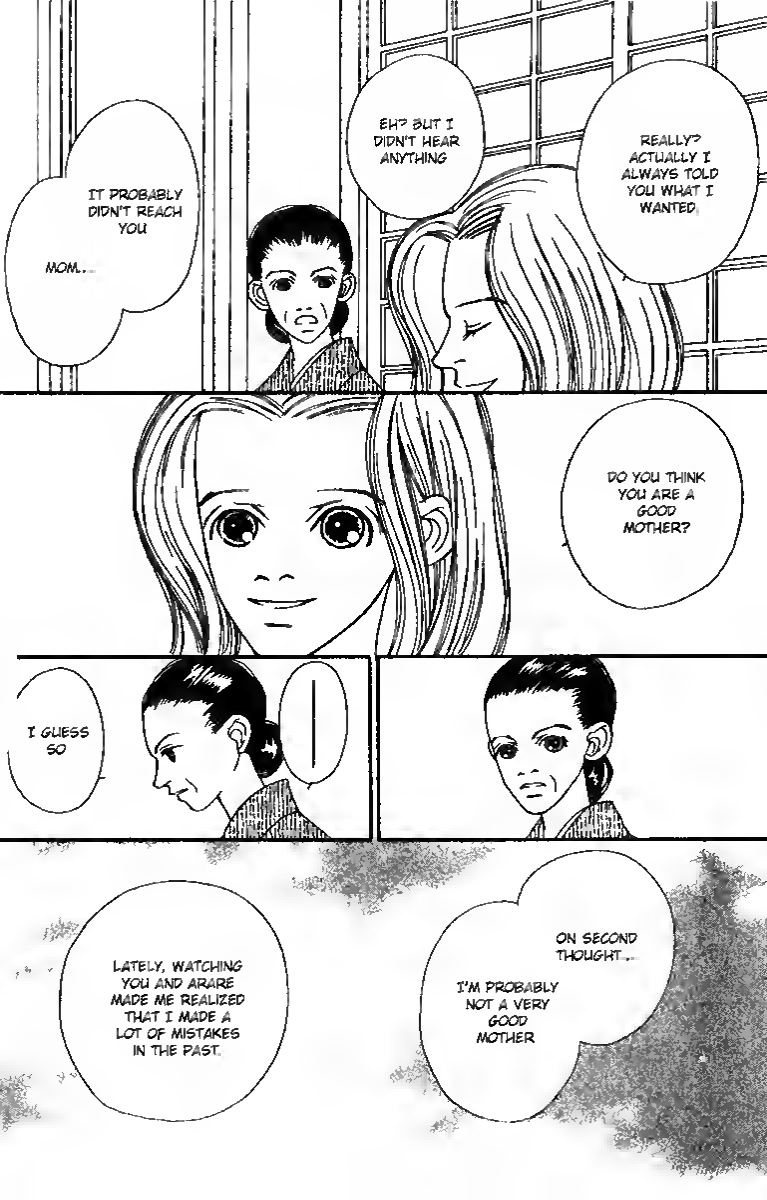
SHE DISLIKES MY CHARACTER, A GUTLESS PERSON WHO CAN'T EXPRESS HERSELF. BUT I WAS DYING TO WIN HER ATTENTION.
MY MOTHER.
SO I TRIED TO MAKE MOM ACCEPT ME, TRIED TO BE THE GOOD GIRL TO EARN MOM'S APPROVAL.
I FELT REJECTED BECAUSE PEOPLE ALWAYS COMPARED ME WITH ARARE WHO WAS ALWAYS A POPULAR GIRL.
CAN SOMEONE AS EMPTY AS ME RAISE A CHILD PROPERLY?
THE NEXT THING I KNOW, EVERYTHING I DO IS SUPERFICIAL.

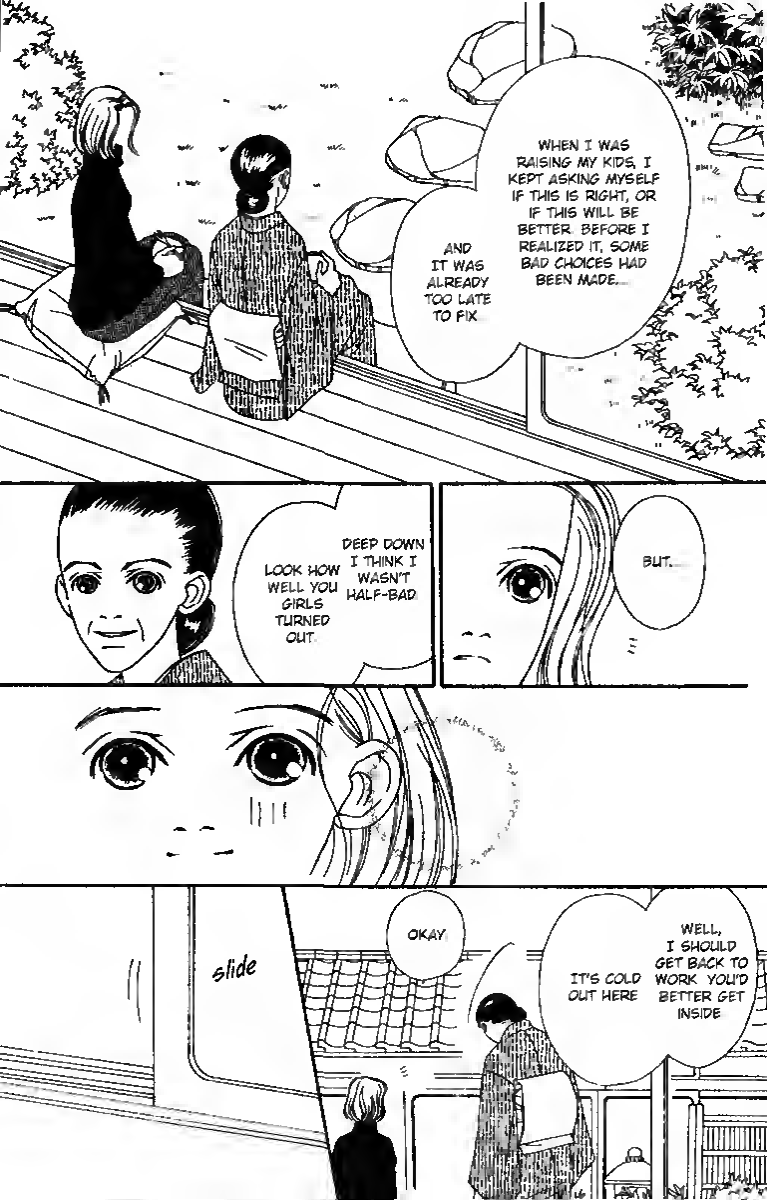
THEN DO YOU FEEL THAT YOUR MOTHER DOESN'T DESERVE TO BE A MOTHER?
IT'S THE SAME THE MOTHER OF THE BABY IN YOUR WOMB IS YOU AND NO ONE ELSE
THINK HOW SAD THE BABY WILL BE TO HEAR ITS MOTHER SAYING SHE'S REJECTING IT.
NO, I NEVER THOUGHT THAT.
YOUR MOTHER IS THE MADAM OF THE FUKUYA AND NO ONE ELSE, RIGHT?

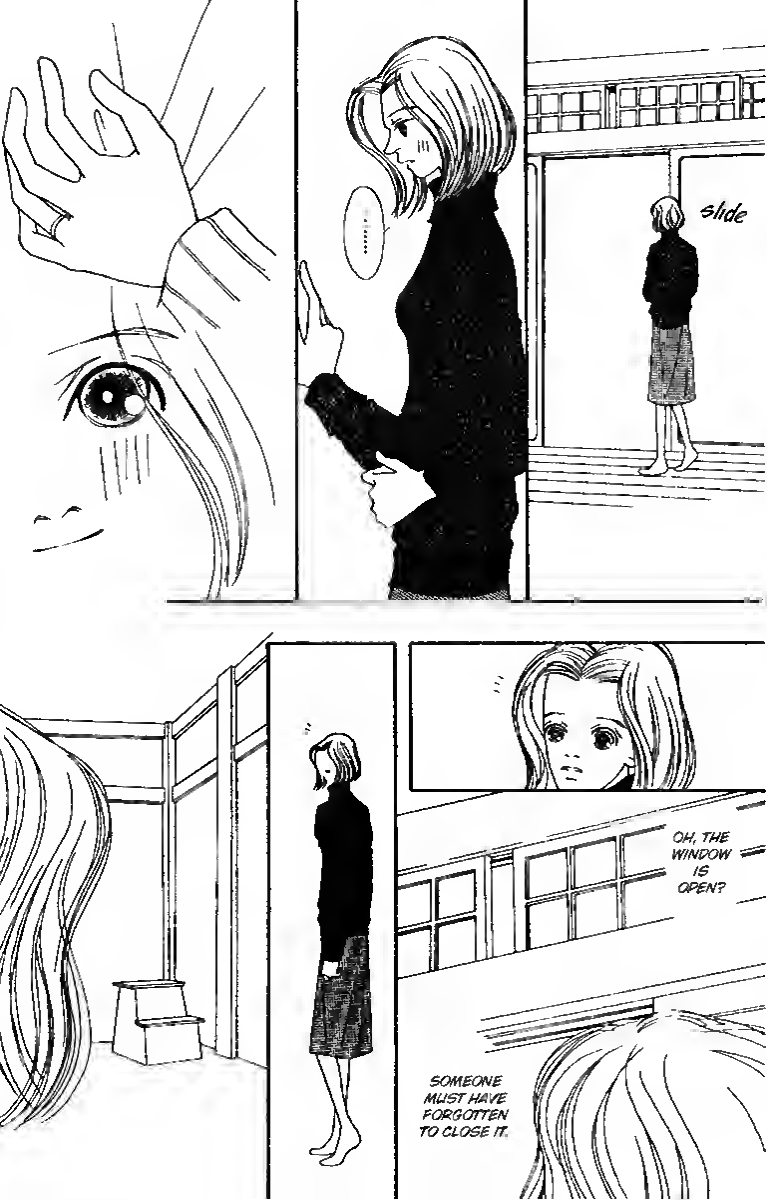

REJECTING?
BUT THAT'S ALSO WHAT MAKES YOU WHO YOU ARE.
YES, YOU MIGHT BE A SCAREDY CAT WHO HAS NO COURAGE TO EXPRESS HERSELF,
DON'T BE ASHAMED.
YOU'RE PERFECT JUST THE WAY YOU ARE, HINA-SAN
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AN IMPECCABLE MOM
FOR ME AND OUR BABY, HINA-SAN BEING HINA-SAN IS ALREADY ENOUGH.
YOU'RE UNIQUE IN YOUR OWN WAY,
WITH YOUR OWN STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES.

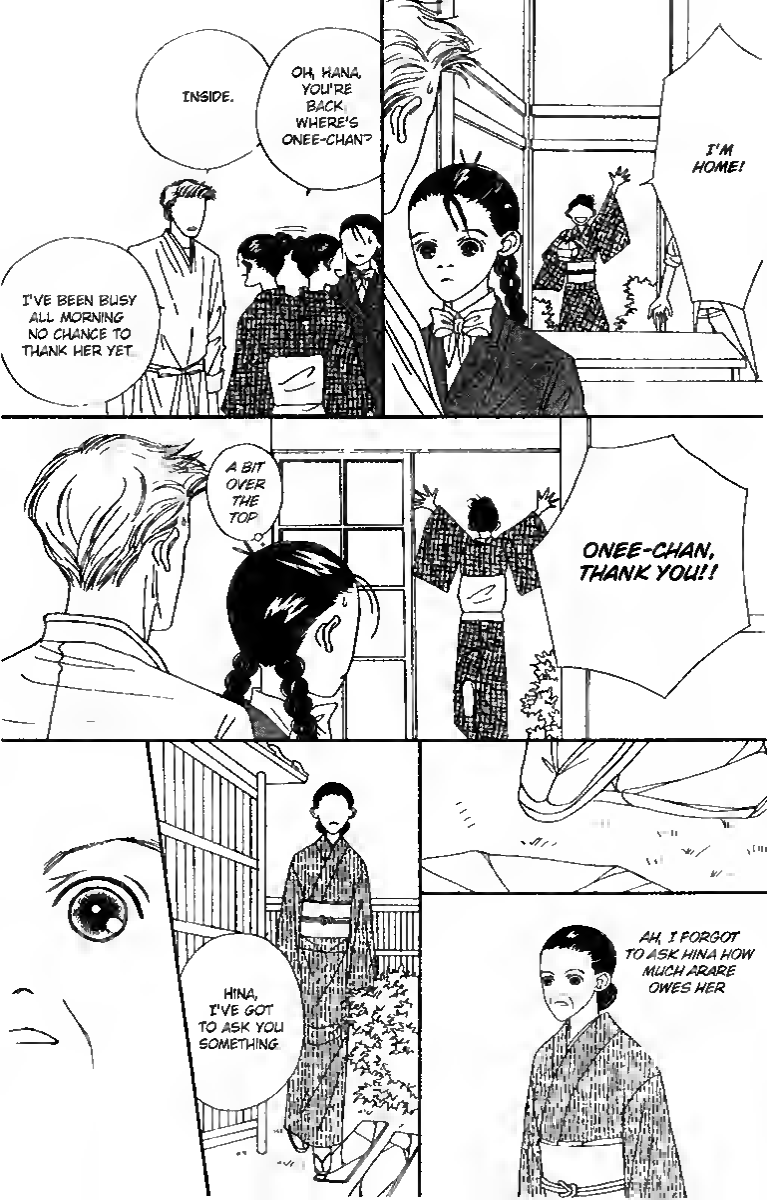
NOT JUST YOU, ARARE-SAN AND HANA-CHAN, TOO.
IN YOUR OWN WAYS, EACH OF YOU SEE THE WORLD DIFFERENTLY.
THAT'S HOW YOUR MOTHER RAISED YOU.
TRY TO HAVE MORE SELF-CONFIDENCE, AT LEAST FOR YOUR MOTHER'S SAKE.

HINA, EAT THIS
* See the credit page for detail
KUZUKURI* I HEARD YOU HAD NO APPETITE SO I ASKED SEI-OJISAN TO MAKE IT FOR YOU
.....
BEING TOGETHER LIKE THIS REMINDS ME OF THOSE TIMES I HAD A FEVER AND MISSED SCHOOL
.....
YOU OFTEN BROUGHT ME THIS AND WE WOULD SIT HERE AND EAT IT TOGETHER
WITHOUT ARARE AND HANA AT HOME, I FELT LIKE I COULD HAVE YOU ALL FOR MYSELF
NOT ONLY DID YOU HAVE A WEAK BODY, BUT A WEAK MIND AS WELL
WHENEVER PEOPLE ASKED YOU WHAT YOU WANTED, YOU ALWAYS KEPT SILENT, EVER SINCE YOU WERE A CHILD
YOU WERE A GIRL OF FEW WORDS. I HAD NO IDEA WHAT YOU REALLY WANTED


IT PROBABLY DIDN'T REACH YOU
MOM...
EH? BUT I DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING
REALLY? ACTUALLY I ALWAYS TOLD YOU WHAT I WANTED.
DO YOU THINK YOU ARE A GOOD MOTHER?
I GUESS SO
LATELY, WATCHING YOU AND ARARE MADE ME REALIZED THAT I MADE A LOT OF MISTAKES IN THE PAST.
ON SECOND THOUGHT...
I'M PROBABLY NOT A VERY GOOD MOTHER

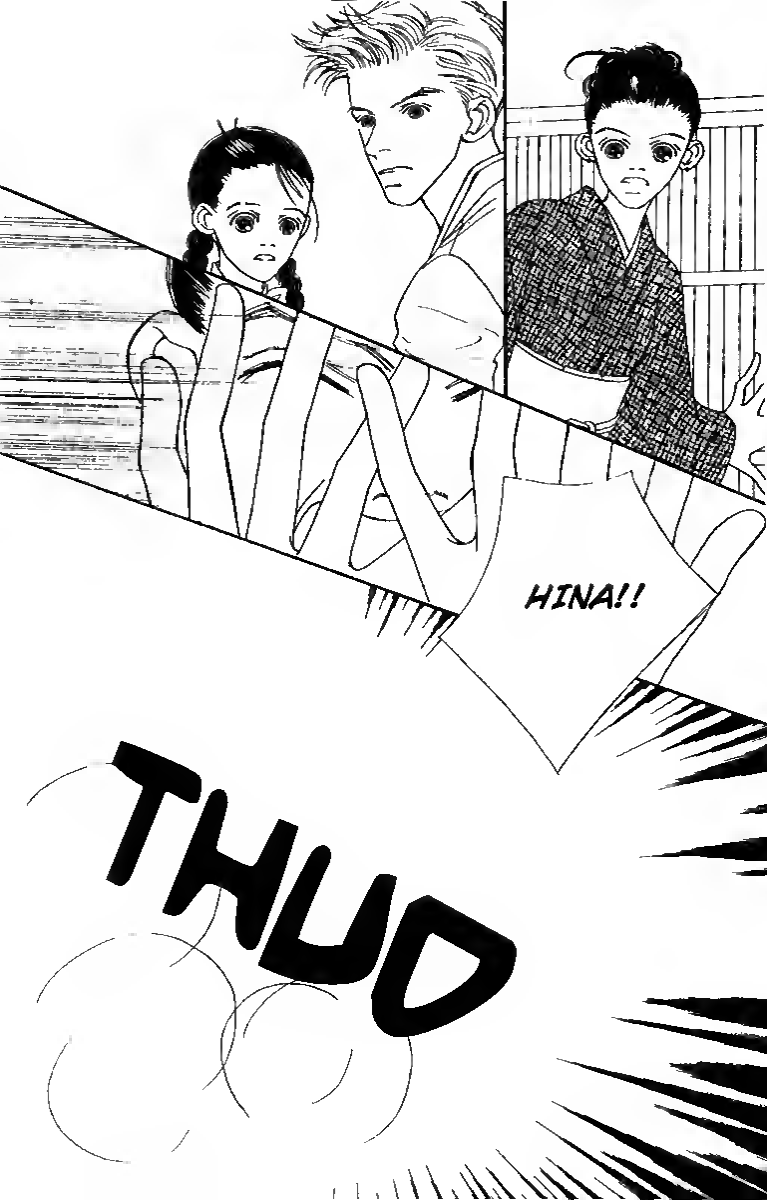

WHEN I WAS RAISING MY KIDS, I KEPT ASKING MYSELF IF THIS IS RIGHT, OR IF THIS WILL BE BETTER. BEFORE I REALIZED IT, SOME BAD CHOICES HAD BEEN MADE...
AND IT WAS ALREADY TOO LATE TO FIX.
BUT.....
DEEP DOWN I THINK I WASN'T HALF-BAD
LOOK HOW WELL YOU GIRLS TURNED OUT.
slide
OKAY.
IT'S COLD OUT HERE
WELL, I SHOULD GET BACK TO WORK. YOU'D BETTER GET INSIDE


slide
OH, THE WINDOW IS OPEN?
SOMEONE MUST HAVE FORGOTTEN TO CLOSE IT.


I'M HOME!
OH, HANA, YOU'RE BACK. WHERE'S ONEE-CHAN?
INSIDE.
I'VE BEEN BUSY ALL MORNING NO CHANCE TO THANK HER YET
ONEE-CHAN, THANK YOU!!
A BIT OVER THE TOP
AH, I FORGOT TO ASK HINA HOW MUCH ARARE OWES HER
HINA, I'VE GOT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING

HINA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
THE WINDOW IS OPEN.
LET IT BE FORGET IT.
COME DOWN NOW.
I'M FINE THIS IS NOTHING
WHOO
AH

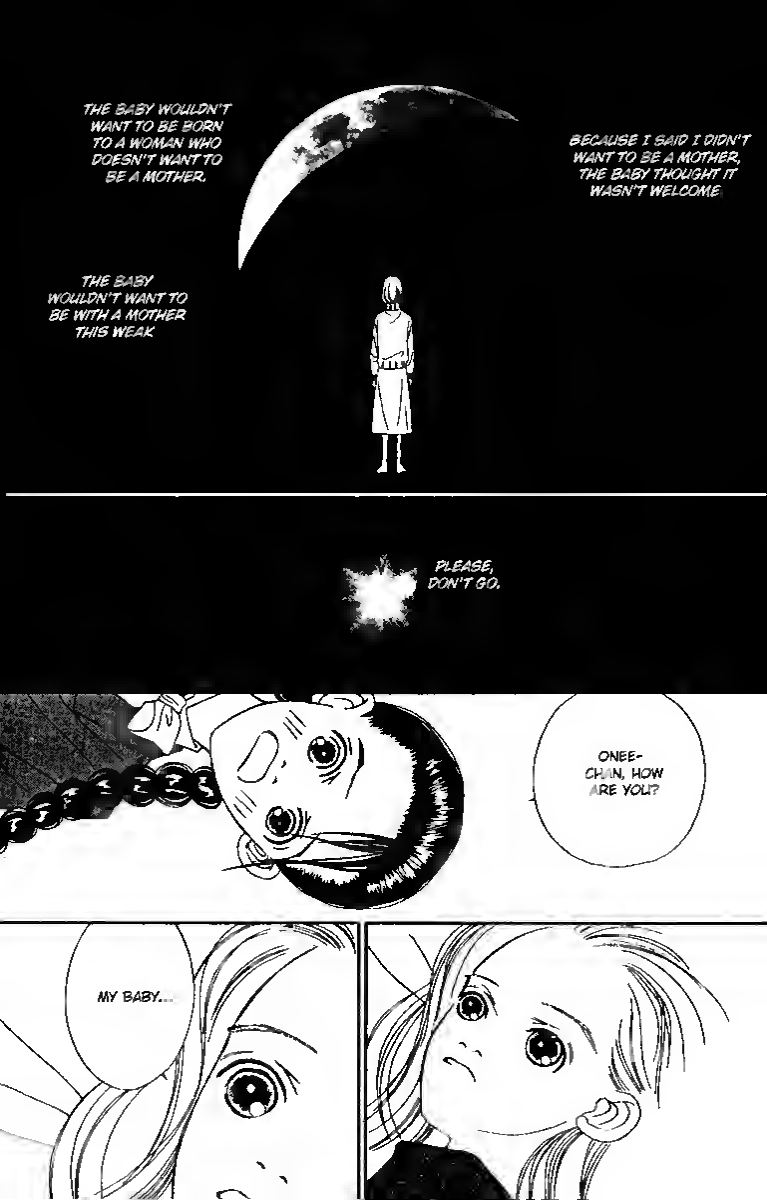
SLIP
I FEEL LIGHT-HEAD-ED... ?!
HINA?!!

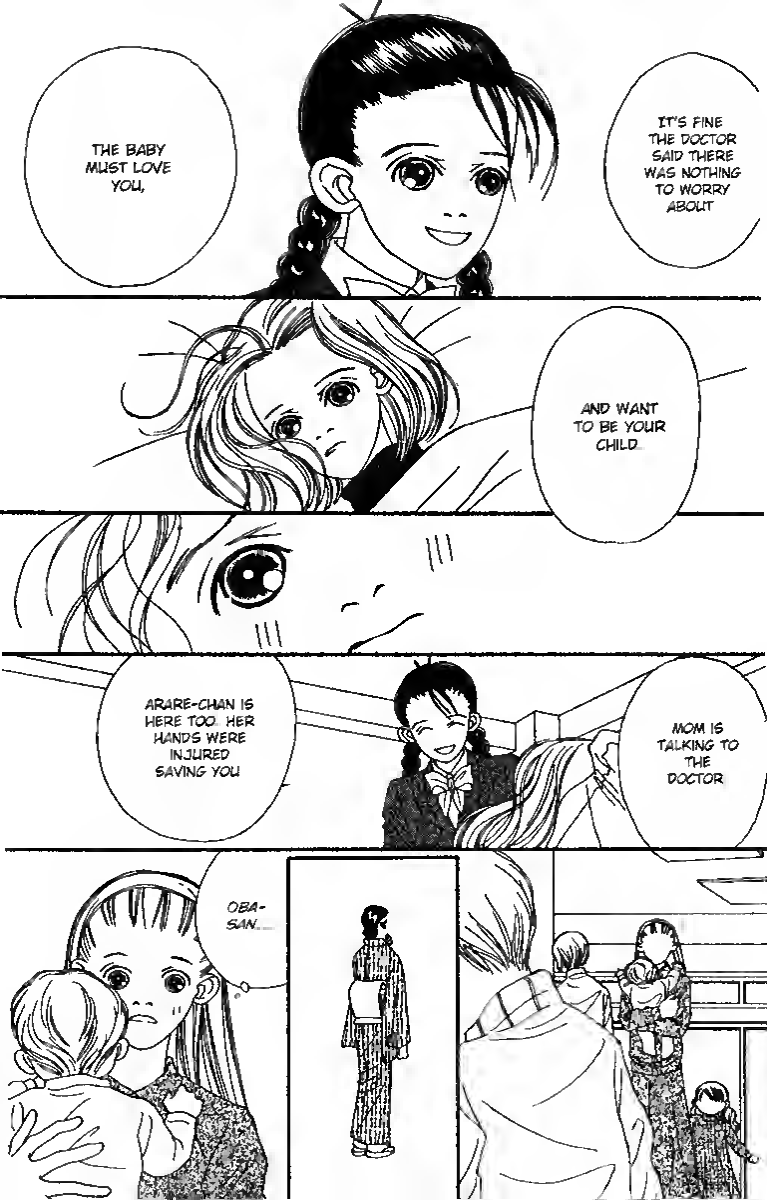

HINA!!
THUD

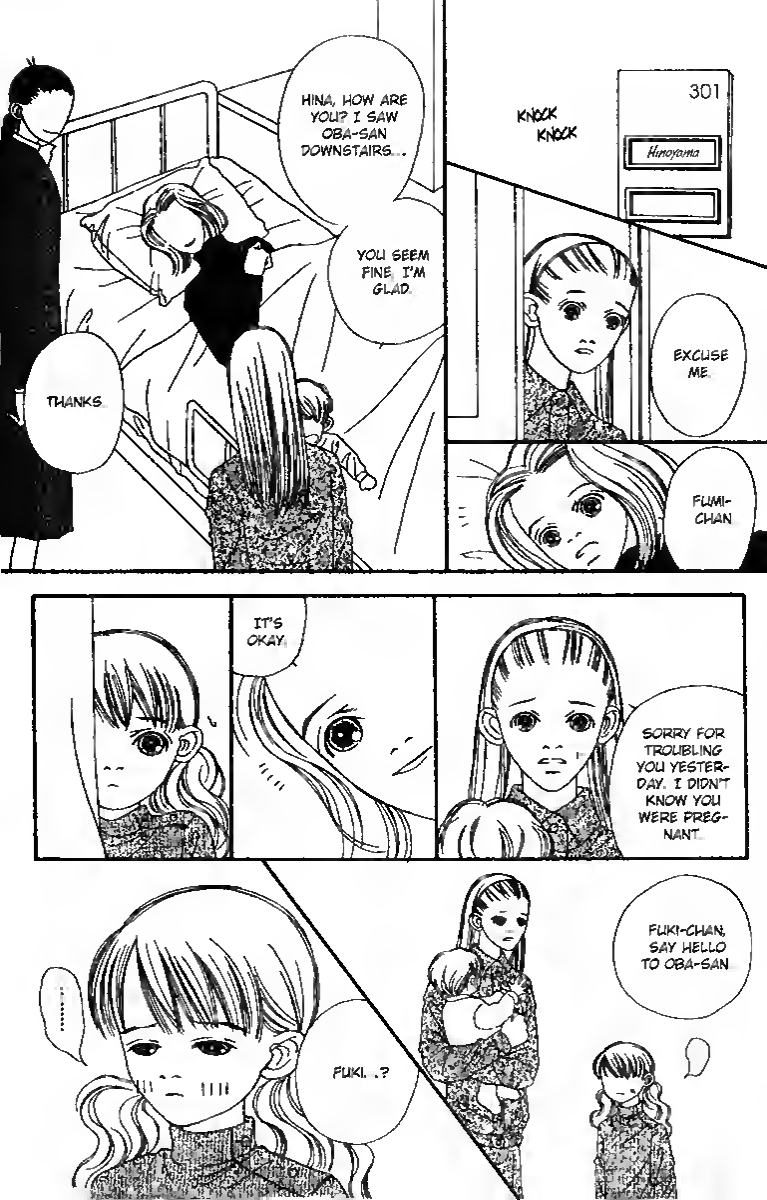
SHATTER!
H-HELP...
clack
ARARE-CHAN!

ARARE!
AH, AN AMBULANCE, YES!
SOMEBODY!
ARE YOU OKAY?
I AM. BUT ONEECHAN.
MADAM, PLEASE CALL AN AMBULANCE!

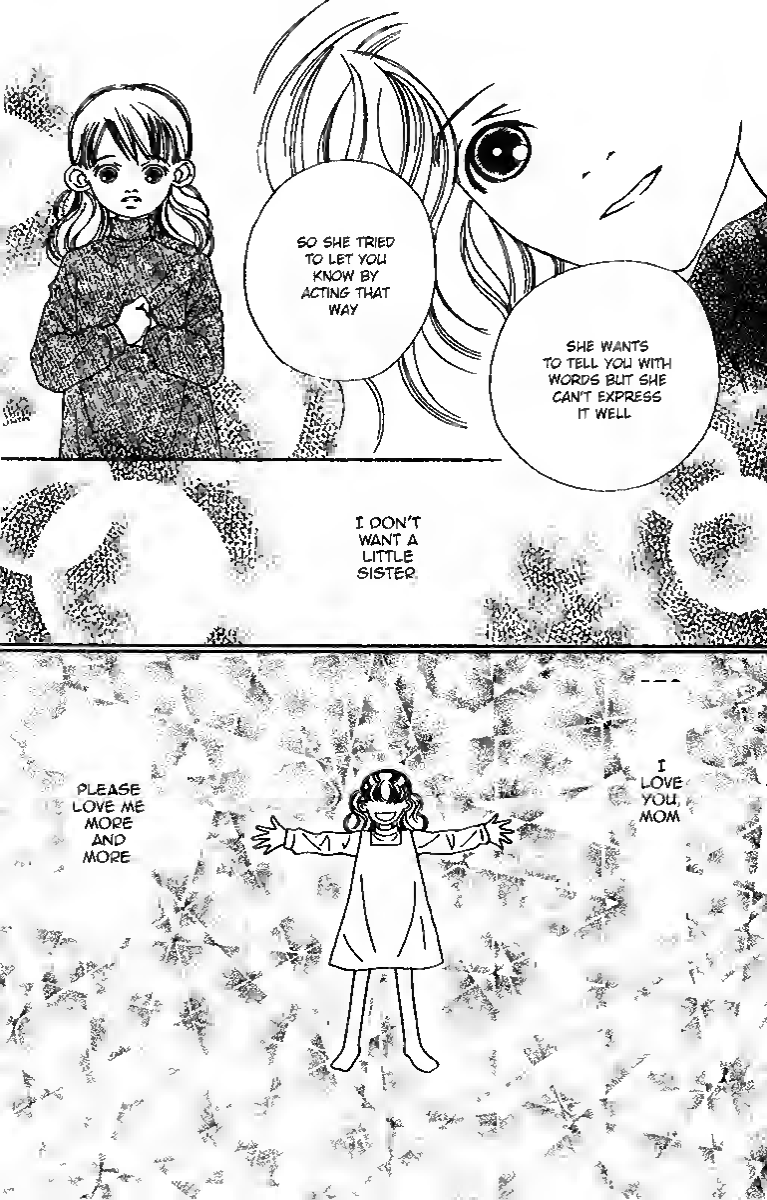
SOMEBODY, CALL AN AMBULANCE...!
ONEE-CHAN!
ONEE-CHAN!
IT'S DISAPPEARING.
DISAPPEARING.

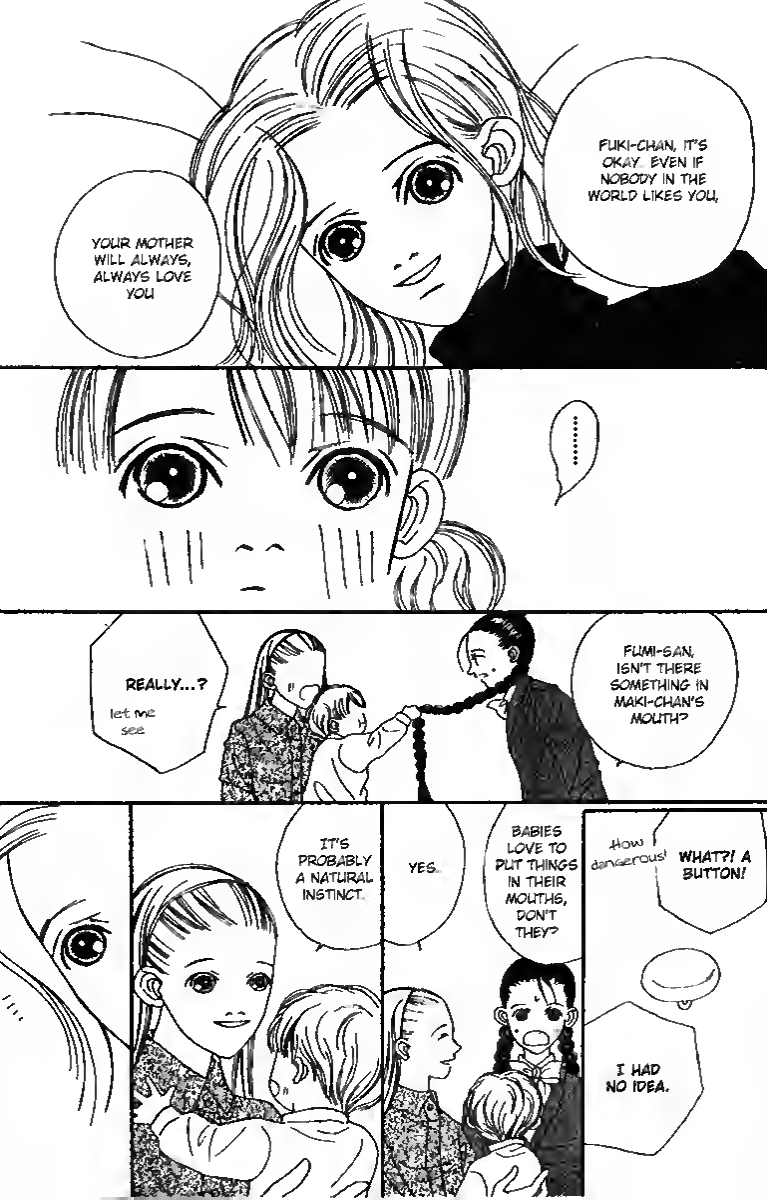

THE BABY WOULDN'T WANT TO BE BORN TO A WOMAN WHO DOESN'T WANT TO BE A MOTHER.
BECAUSE I SAID I DIDN'T WANT TO BE A MOTHER, THE BABY THOUGHT IT WASN'T WELCOME.
THE BABY WOULDN'T WANT TO BE WITH A MOTHER THIS WEAK.
PLEASE, DON'T GO.
ONEE-CHAN, HOW ARE YOU?
MY BABY...

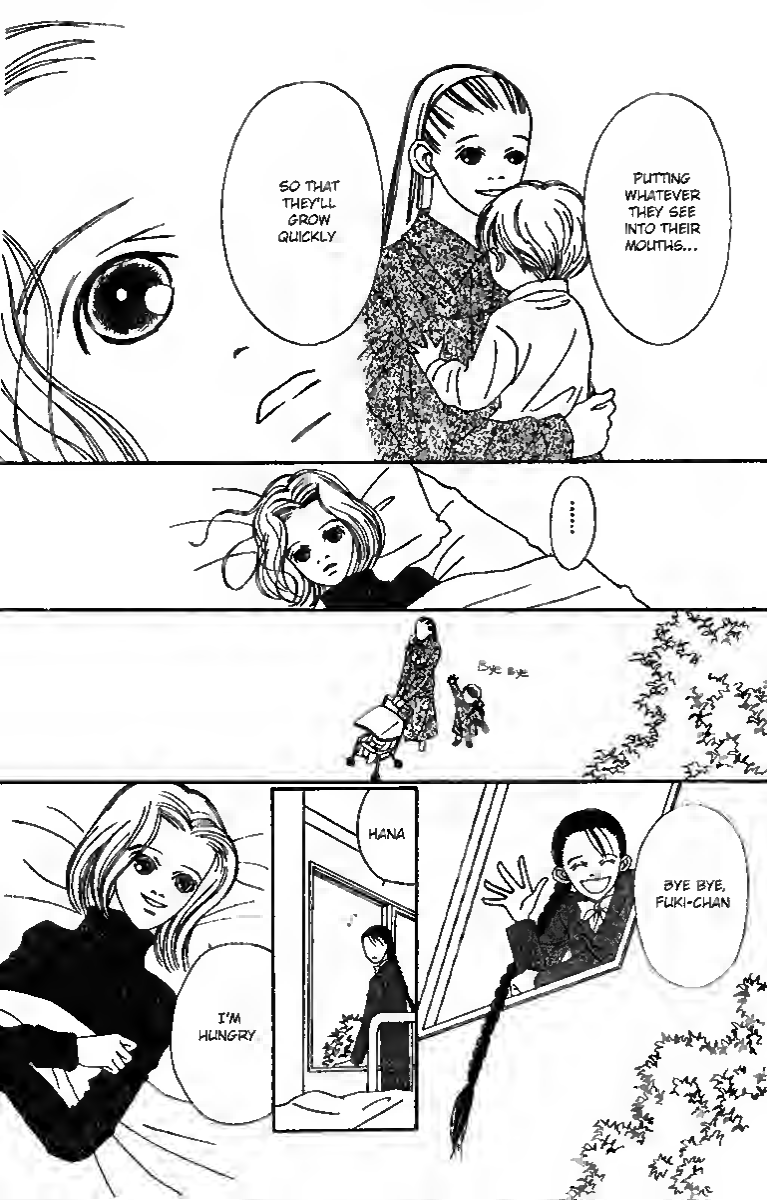

THE BABY MUST LOVE YOU,
IT'S FINE THE DOCTOR SAID THERE WAS NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT
AND WANT TO BE YOUR CHILD
ARARE-CHAN IS HERE TOO. HER HANDS WERE INJURED SAVING YOU
MOM IS TALKING TO THE DOCTOR
OBA-SAN...

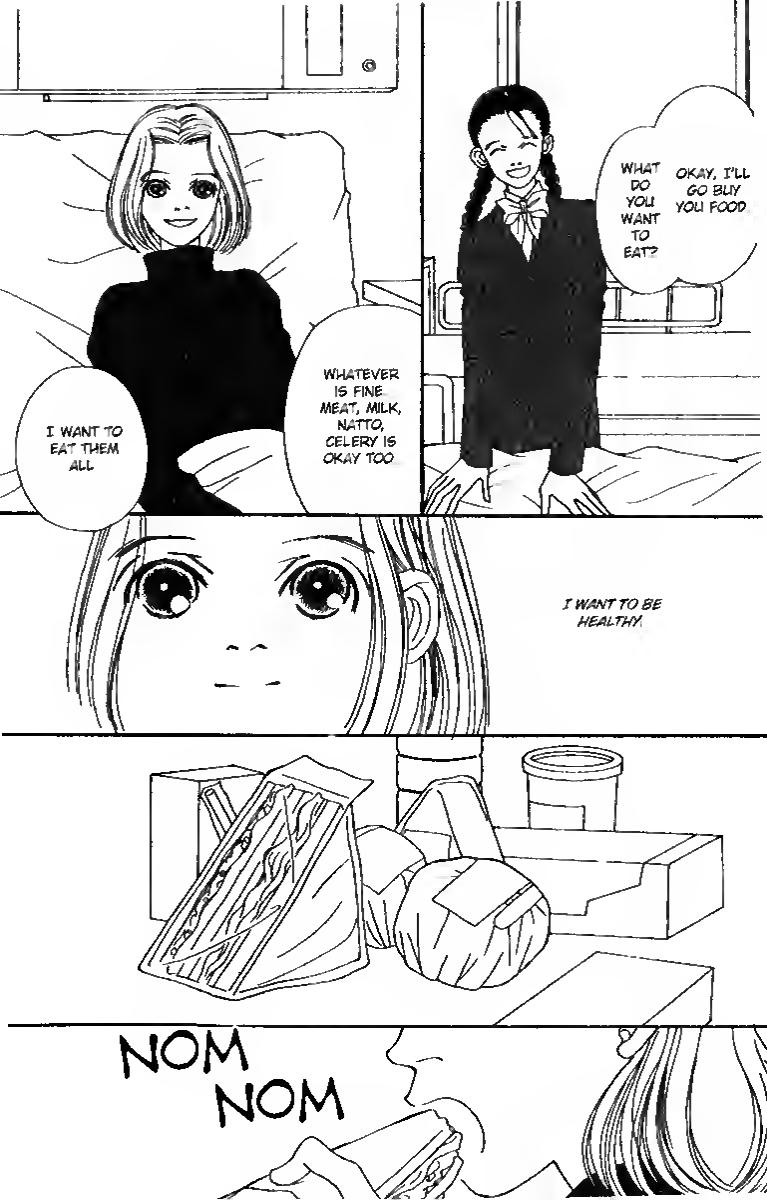

HINA, HOW ARE YOU? I SAW OBA-SAN DOWNSTAIRS...
YOU SEEM FINE. I'M GLAD.
THANKS.
KNOCK KNOCK
301
Hinoyama
EXCUSE ME.
FUMI-CHAN
IT'S OKAY.
SORRY FOR TROUBLING YOU YESTERDAY. I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE PREGNANT.
FUKI-CHAN, SAY HELLO TO OBA-SAN.
FUKI..?

FUKI,
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU THAT I DON'T LIKE A CHILD WITHOUT MANNERS?
Ah
I WON'T LOVE YOU ANYMORE.
H... HELLO
YOU'RE AN ONEE-CHAN, YOU KNOW AFTER MAKI CAME, YOU'RE ALWAYS HESITANT TO SPEAK
SHE ISN'T HESITANT FUMI-CHAN, DIDN'T YOU HEAR?
...WHAT FUKI-CHAN IS TRYING TO TELL YOU?


SO SHE TRIED TO LET YOU KNOW BY ACTING THAT WAY
SHE WANTS TO TELL YOU WITH WORDS BUT SHE CAN'T EXPRESS IT WELL
I DON'T WANT A LITTLE SISTER
PLEASE LOVE ME MORE AND MORE
I LOVE YOU, MOM

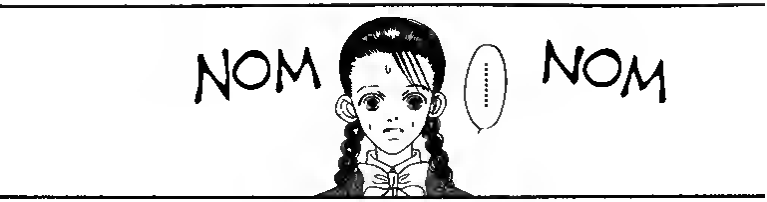

FUKI-CHAN, IT'S OKAY. EVEN IF NOBODY IN THE WORLD LIKES YOU,
YOUR MOTHER WILL ALWAYS, ALWAYS LOVE YOU
.....
FUMI-SAN, ISN'T THERE SOMETHING IN MAKI-CHAN'S MOUTH?
REALLY...?
let me see
WHAT?! A BUTTON!
How dangerous!
BABIES LOVE TO PUT THINGS IN THEIR MOUTHS, DON'T THEY?
YES.
IT'S PROBABLY A NATURAL INSTINCT.
I HAD NO IDEA.

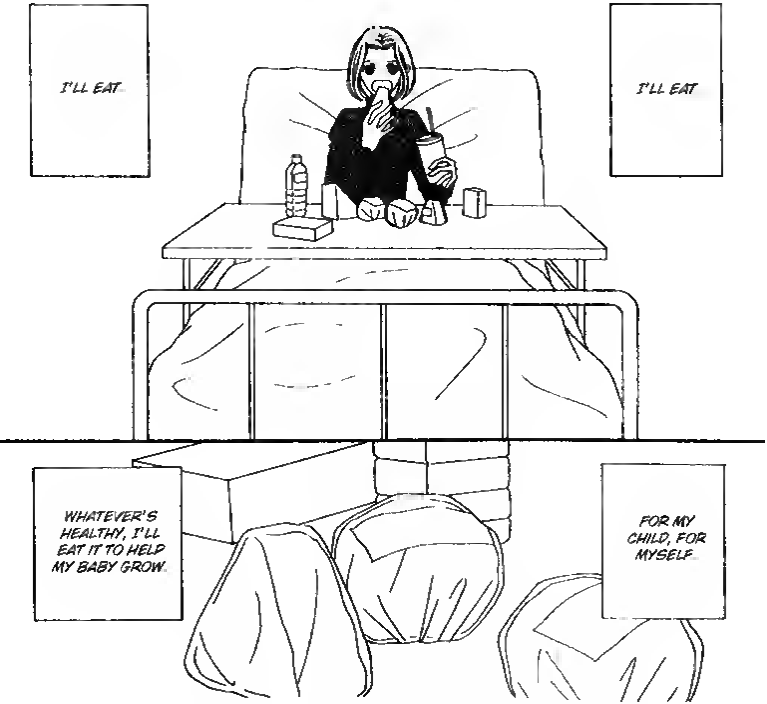

SO THAT THEY'LL GROW QUICKLY
PUTTING WHATEVER THEY SEE INTO THEIR MOUTHS...
.....
Bye Bye
HANA
BYE BYE, FUKI-CHAN
I'M HUNGRY

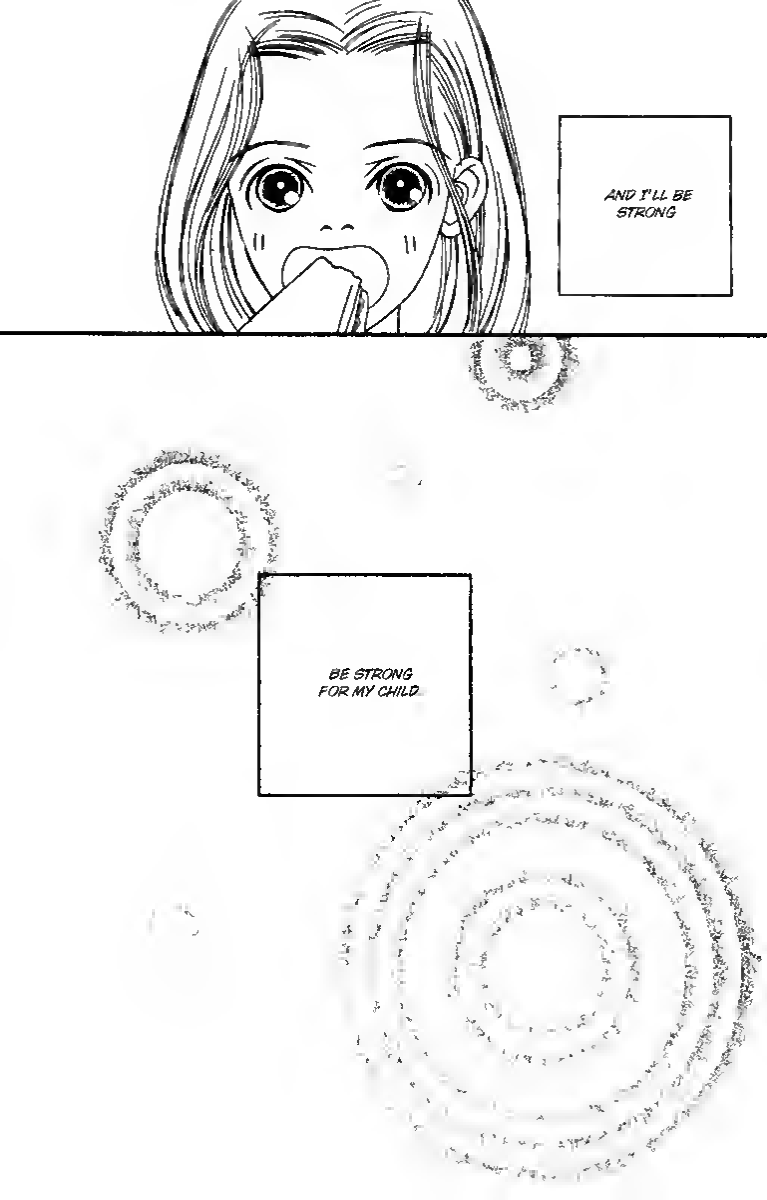

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO EAT?
OKAY, I'LL GO BUY YOU FOOD
WHATEVER IS FINE MEAT, MILK, NATTO, CELERY IS OKAY TOO
I WANT TO EAT THEM ALL
I WANT TO BE HEALTHY.
NOM NOM

THE BABY NEEDS ME TO BE HEALTHY

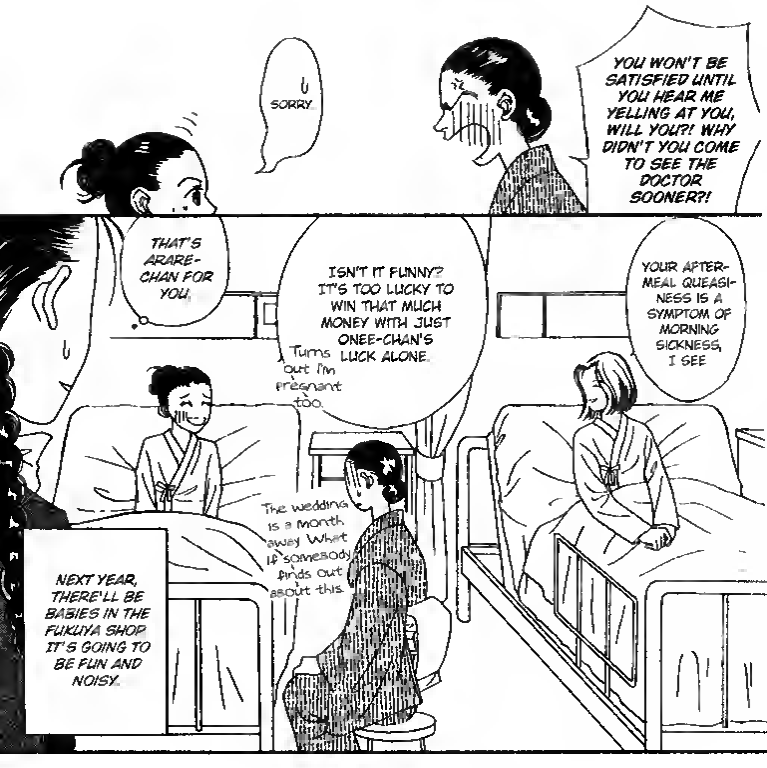
I HAVE TO STOP BEING PICKY.






AND I'LL BE STRONG
BE STRONG FOR MY CHILD

AH, HOLD ON
THANK YOU, DOCTOR
TELL HER TO AVOID OVER-EXERTING HERSELF IN THE FUTURE
SHE SHOULD SPEND THE NIGHT HERE AS WELL.
BOTH MOTHER AND CHILD ARE HEALTHY
THE YOUNGER SISTER IS FINE TOO
I'LL HAVE HER STAY AT THE HOSPITAL FOR THE NIGHT. PLEASE CONTACT THE NURSE OUTSIDE FOR DETAILS.
SHE'S EIGHT-WEEKS PREGNANT
MOTHER AND CHILD?
THEY SENT ME FOR A CHECK-UP AND THEN THE OBSTETRICIAN CONGRATULATED ME.
WHEN THE ER DOCTOR WAS CHECKING MY WOUNDS, I TOLD HIM THAT MY STOMACH'S BEEN QUEASY FOR WEEKS, PROBABLY BECAUSE I'VE BEEN EATING TOO MUCH LATELY...


YOU WON'T BE SATISFIED UNTIL YOU HEAR ME YELLING AT YOU, WILL YOU?! WHY DIDN'T YOU COME TO SEE THE DOCTOR SOONER?!
SORRY.
THAT'S ARARE-CHAN FOR YOU.
ISN'T IT FUNNY? IT'S TOO LUCKY TO WIN THAT MUCH MONEY WITH JUST ONEE-CHAN'S LUCK ALONE.
Turns out I'm pregnant too.
YOUR AFTER-MEAL QUEASINESS IS A SYMPTOM OF MORNING SICKNESS, I SEE
The wedding is a month away. What if somebody finds out about this.
NEXT YEAR, THERE'LL BE BABIES IN THE FUKUYA SHOP. IT'S GOING TO BE FUN AND NOISY.

AND WE'VE COME TO THE FINAL STORY. LET'S TURN THE CLOCK FORWARD A BIT.

Kuzukuri
kuru starch noodle
in a black syrup

Fukuyadon Honpo

by YUCHI Yayomi

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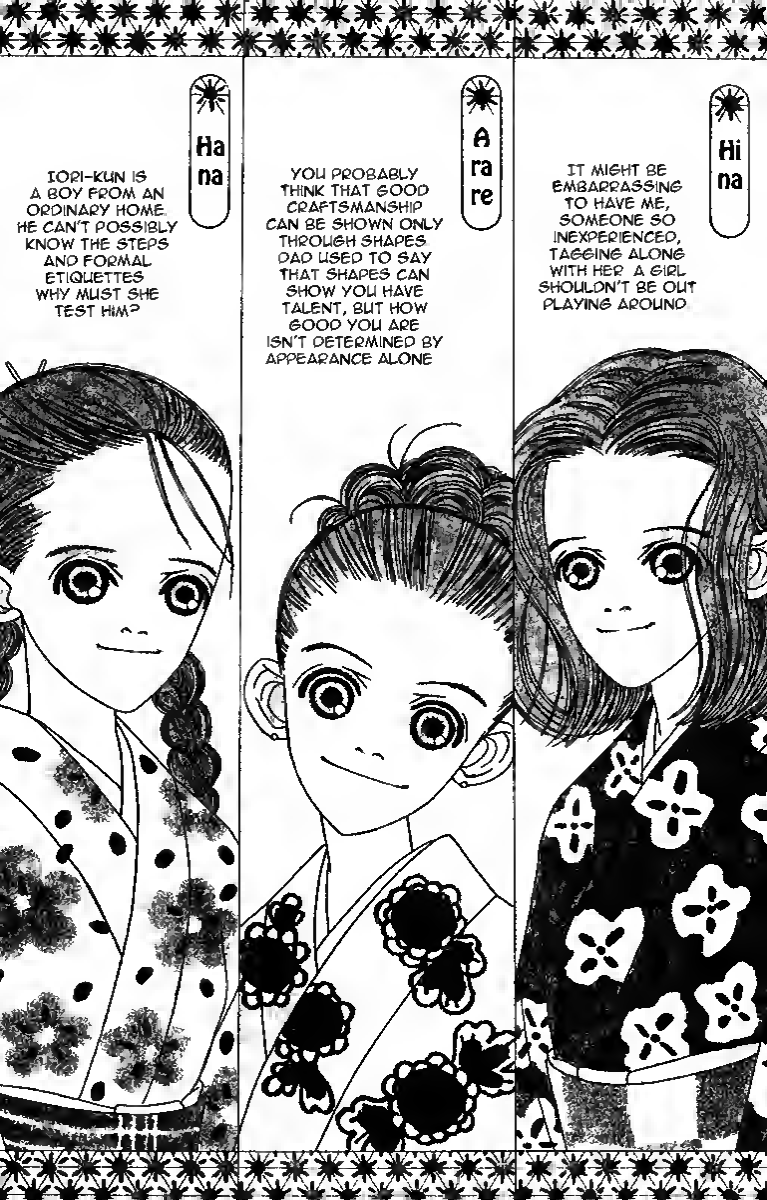
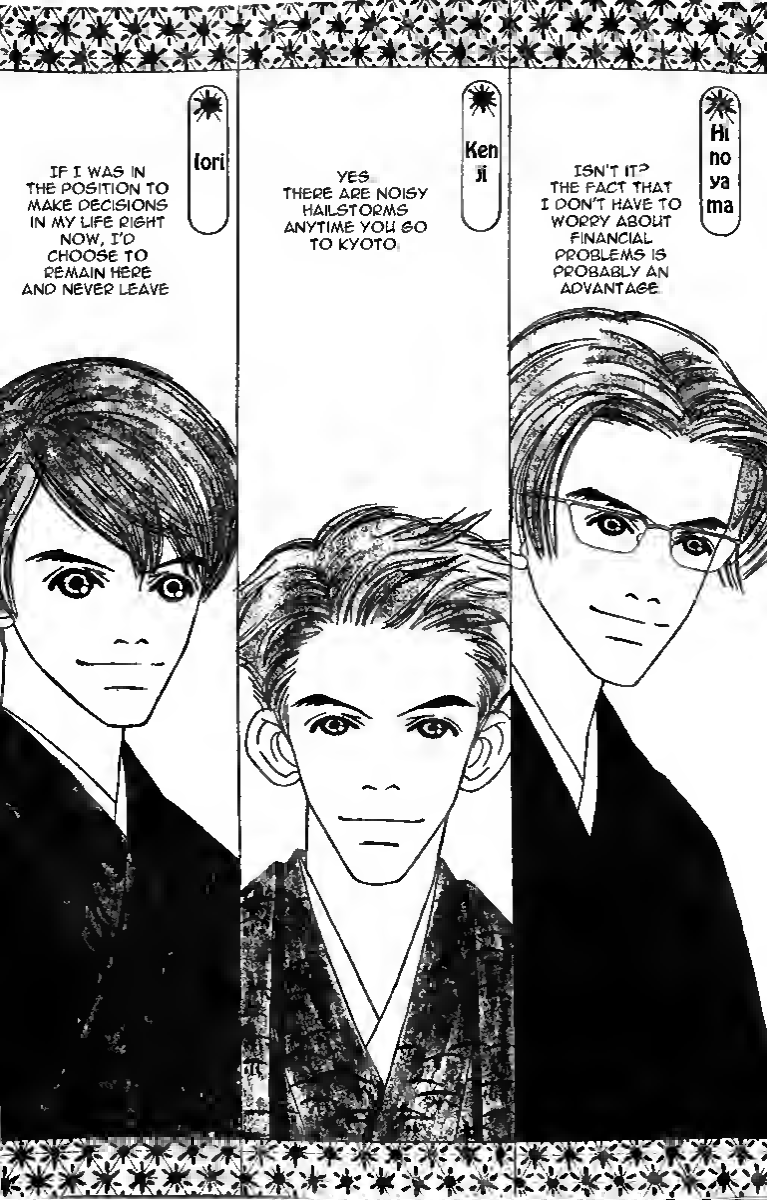
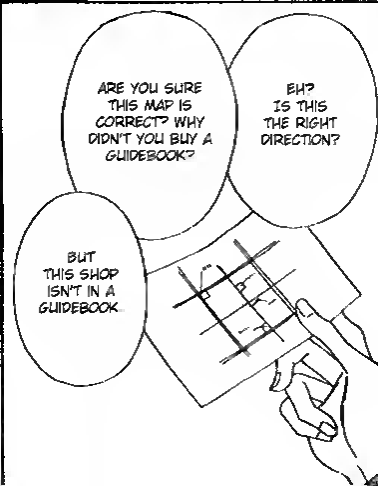

Hana
IORI-KUN IS A BOY FROM AN ORDINARY HOME. HE CAN'T POSSIBLY KNOW THE STEPS AND FORMAL ETIQUETTES WHY MUST SHE TEST HIM?
Arare
YOU PROBABLY THINK THAT GOOD CRAFTSMANSHIP CAN BE SHOWN ONLY THROUGH SHAPES DAD USED TO SAY THAT SHAPES CAN SHOW YOU HAVE TALENT, BUT HOW GOOD YOU ARE ISN'T DETERMINED BY APPEARANCE ALONE
Hina
IT MIGHT BE EMBARRASSING TO HAVE ME, SOMEONE SO INEXPERIENCED, TAGGING ALONG WITH HER. A GIRL SHOULDN'T BE OUT PLAYING AROUND

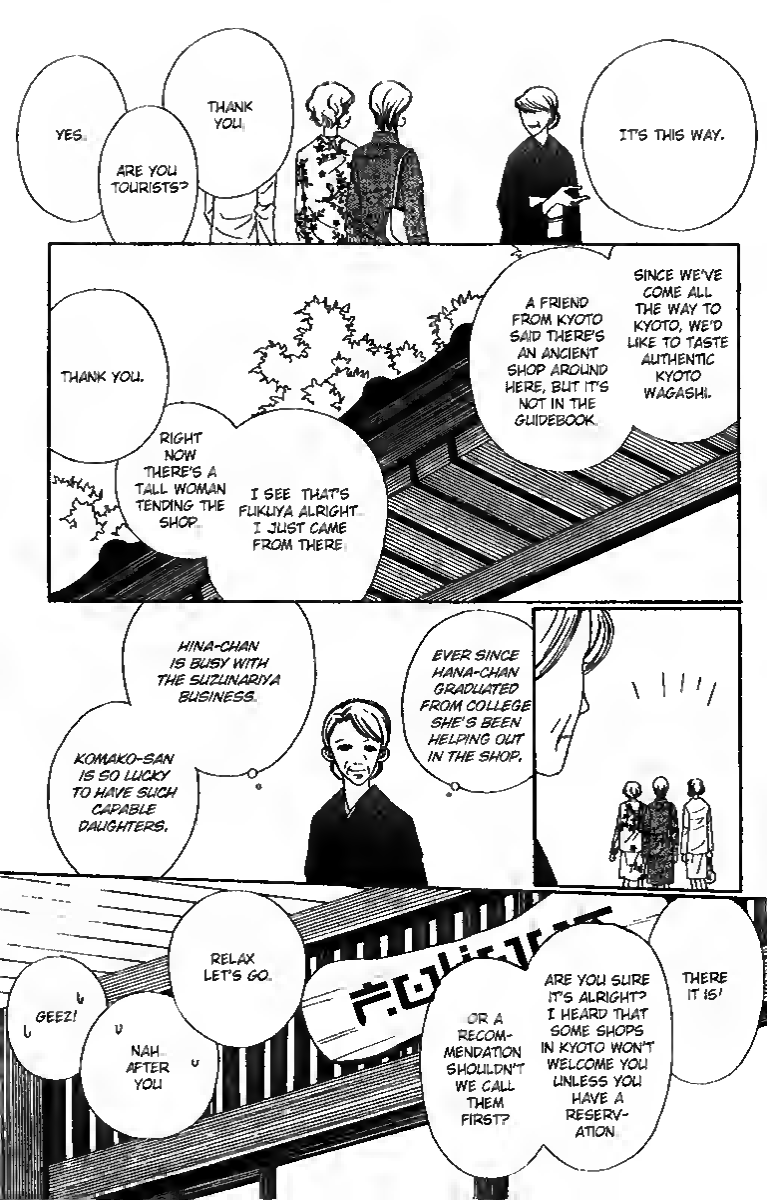

Iori
IF I WAS IN THE POSITION TO MAKE DECISIONS IN MY LIFE RIGHT NOW, I'D CHOOSE TO REMAIN HERE AND NEVER LEAVE
Kenji
YES. THERE ARE NOISY HAILSTORMS ANYTIME YOU GO TO KYOTO.
Hinoyama
ISN'T IT? THE FACT THAT I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT FINANCIAL PROBLEMS IS PROBABLY AN ADVANTAGE.

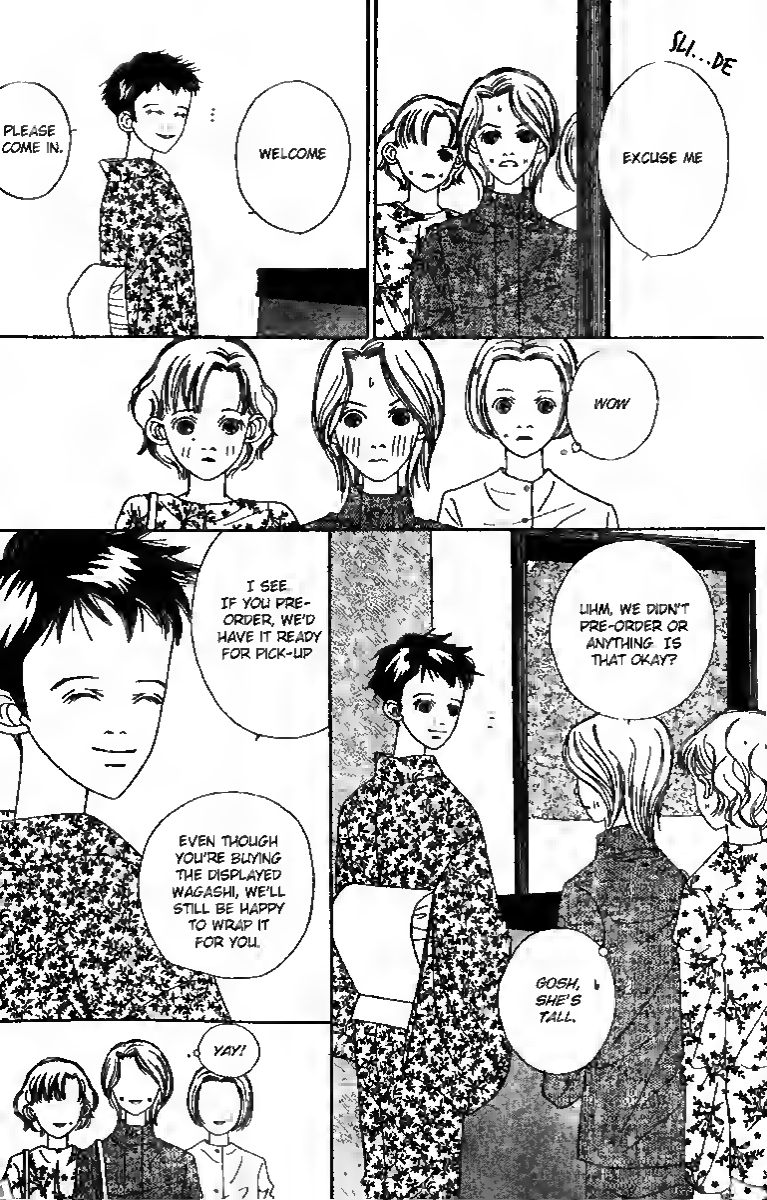
Fukuyadō Honpo
福家堂本舗
Epilogue

KYOTO,
SIX YEARS
LATER

EXCUSE ME.
IS THERE A SHOP CALLED FUKUYA AROUND HERE?
FUKUYA?


ARE YOU SURE THIS MAP IS CORRECT? WHY DIDN'T YOU BUY A GUIDEBOOK?
EH? IS THIS THE RIGHT DIRECTION?
BUT THIS SHOP ISN'T IN A GUIDEBOOK.

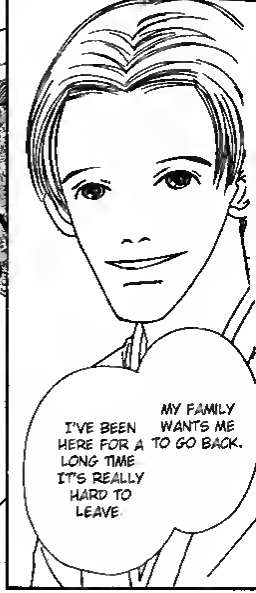

YES.
ARE YOU TOURISTS?
THANK YOU.
IT'S THIS WAY.
THANK YOU.
RIGHT NOW THERE'S A TALL WOMAN TENDING THE SHOP.
I SEE. THAT'S FUKUYA ALRIGHT. I JUST CAME FROM THERE.
A FRIEND FROM KYOTO SAID THERE'S AN ANCIENT SHOP AROUND HERE, BUT IT'S NOT IN THE GUIDEBOOK.
SINCE WE'VE COME ALL THE WAY TO KYOTO, WE'D LIKE TO TASTE AUTHENTIC KYOTO WAGASHI.
HINA-CHAN IS BUSY WITH THE SUZUNARIYA BUSINESS.
KOMAKO-SAN IS SO LUCKY TO HAVE SUCH CAPABLE DAUGHTERS.
EVER SINCE HANA-CHAN GRADUATED FROM COLLEGE SHE'S BEEN HELPING OUT IN THE SHOP.
GEEZ!
NAH AFTER YOU
RELAX LET'S GO.
OR A RECOM-MENDATION SHOULDN'T WE CALL THEM FIRST?
ARE YOU SURE IT'S ALRIGHT? I HEARD THAT SOME SHOPS IN KYOTO WON'T WELCOME YOU UNLESS YOU HAVE A RESERV-ATION
THERE IT IS!


PLEASE COME IN.
WELCOME
SLI...DE
EXCUSE ME
WOW
I SEE IF YOU PRE-ORDER, WE'D HAVE IT READY FOR PICK-UP
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE BUYING THE DISPLAYED WAGASHI, WE'LL STILL BE HAPPY TO WRAP IT FOR YOU.
YAY!
UHM, WE DIDN'T PRE-ORDER OR ANYTHING IS THAT OKAY?
GOSH, SHE'S TALL.

I'M RELIEVED
WE WERE WORRIED AT FIRST ONE OF OUR FRIENDS WAS CONCERNED THAT YOU WOULDN'T SELL TO A TOURIST
BECAUSE SOME WAGASHI SHOPS IN KYOTO DON'T ACCEPT WALK-INS
YES, WE USED TO BE LIKE THAT, TOO
IN THE PAST OUR ONLY CUSTOMERS WERE SHRINES AND TEA DOUJOUS
HANA-CHAN.
THE ONES ON THE UPPER SHELF SHOULD BE EATEN TODAY. THE ONES BELOW CAN BE STORED FOR TWO DAYS
THEY'RE SO PRETTY. WHICH ONE SHOULD I PICK?
UH, HOW LONG CAN THESE WAGASHI BE KEPT?

YOU'VE GOT A PHONE CALL.
How about this one?
THANKS.
LET TSUMI TAKE OVER.
ALLOW ME.
WHO'S CALLING?
IT'S IORI.
Yes.
This one, and.
WHY IS HE CALLING ME?
HOW CAN I ANSWER THAT QUESTION?
SUGI-SAN, YOU'RE LEAVING THE SHOP SOON, RIGHT?
MOM TOLD ME YESTERDAY
AH, YES
.....

NOT ALL OF US HAVE LEFT.
ALL THE WAGASHI CHEFS FROM THE OLD DAYS HAVE LEFT. I'LL FEEL SO LONELY AROUND HERE

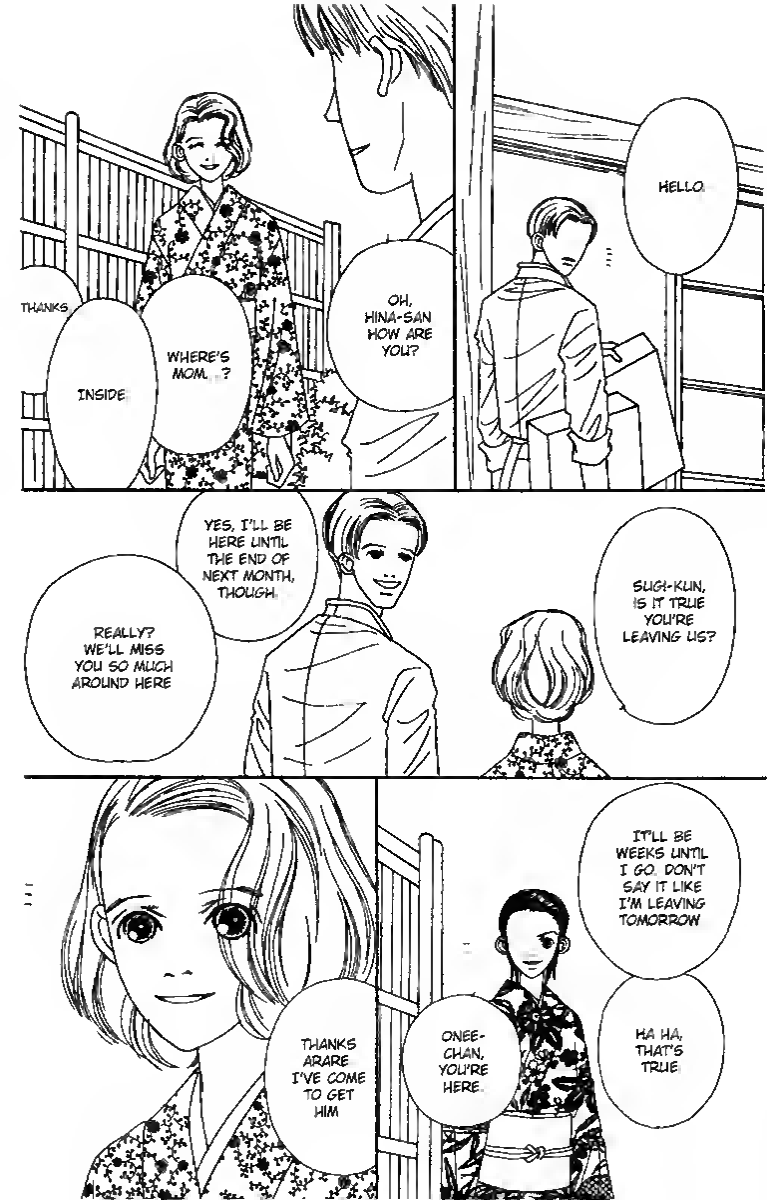

I'VE BEEN HERE FOR A LONG TIME. IT'S REALLY HARD TO LEAVE.
MY FAMILY WANTS ME TO GO BACK.

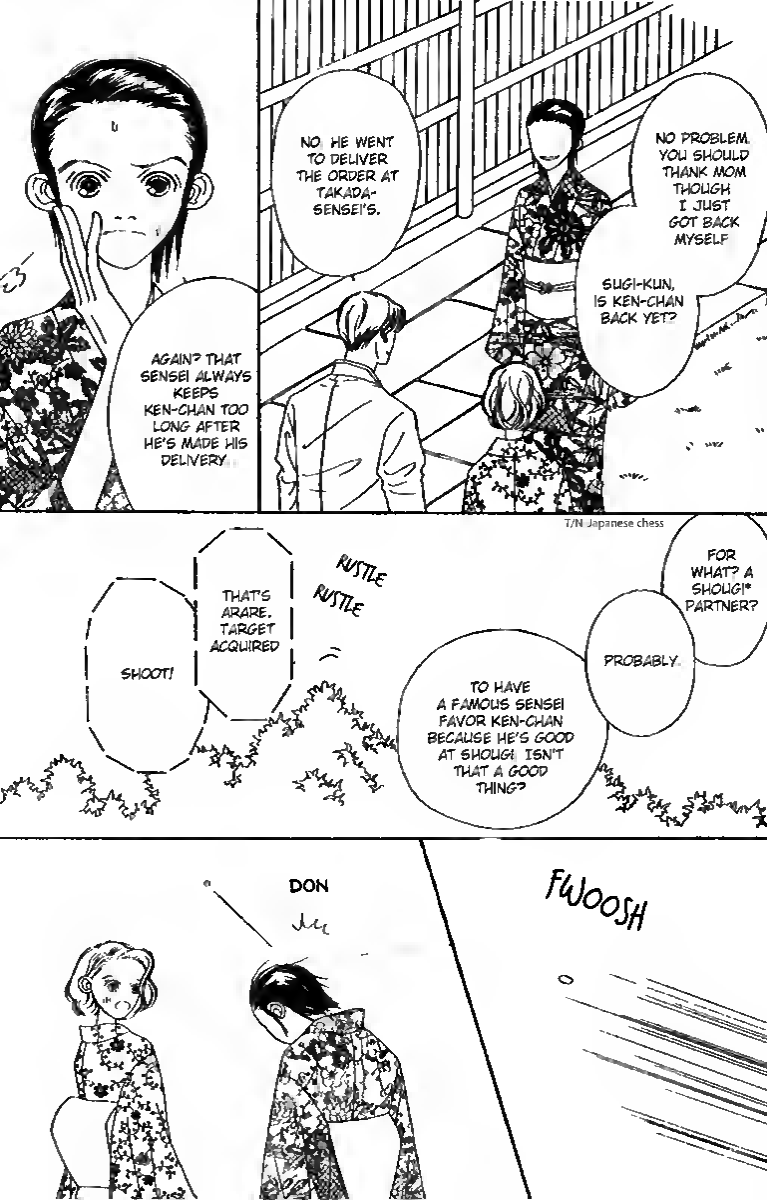
KENJI-SAN WILL MISS YOU TOO. DO YOU REALLY HAVE TO GO, SUGI-SAN?
YES, KENJI-SAN TAUGHT ME A LOT OF THINGS
YOU MEAN KENJI-SAN?
HANA-CHAN.
AH!
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO ANSWER THE PHONE? HE'S WAITING.

EH? RIGHT NOW? YEAH, I SUPPOSE I CAN. WHAT'S THE MATTER?
YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL ME? CAN IT WAIT UNTIL TONIGHT?
OKAY. I GOT IT.
PICKS UP
IT'S ME. WHAT'S UP?
AREN'T YOU AT WORK?
TSUMI-KUN, I'LL BE OUT FOR TWO HOURS.
THANKS.
OKAY, I'LL TEND THE SHOP.

I'M BACK.
YOU'RE BACK HOW WAS THE OUGIKAI MEETING?
SAME OLD, SAME OLD. THEY'RE RALLYING AGAINST THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN APARTMENT COMPLEX THAT WILL BLOCK THE VIEW OF THE CITY
I SEE.
WHY DOES THE OWNER OF DAIDOUKUIYA SHOP KEEP ATTACKING ME WITH BITING REMARKS?
TODAY WAS NO EXCEPTION.
BECAUSE I USED TO PICK ON HIS SON
No wonder
.....
ONEE-CHAN ISN'T HERE YET?
FWOOSH
NO
SMACK

rustle
rustle
SHE'S THE YOUNGEST AMONG THEM, YET SHE'S THE ONE DRIVING THE BUS...
BUT SHE'S THE MADAM OF SUZU-NARIYA.
POOR HINA MINGLING WITH THE POMPOUS MADAMS OF THOSE HIGH-PROFILE EXECUTIVES CAN'T BE EASY.
.....
EVERYONE IS BUSY WITH THEIR OWN PROBLEMS
A MERE WAGASHI SHOP'S DAUGHTER IS SOCIALIZING WITH THOSE 50-60 YEAR OLD RICH SNOBBY MADAMS.
BUT AT THE SAME TIME HAS TO ACT THE ROLE OF THE CHAIRMAN'S DAUGHTER IN-LAW.
I PITY HER. SHE HAS TO REMAIN HUMBLE AS THE NEWCOMER.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH BEING THE DAUGHTER OF A WAGASHI SHOP?

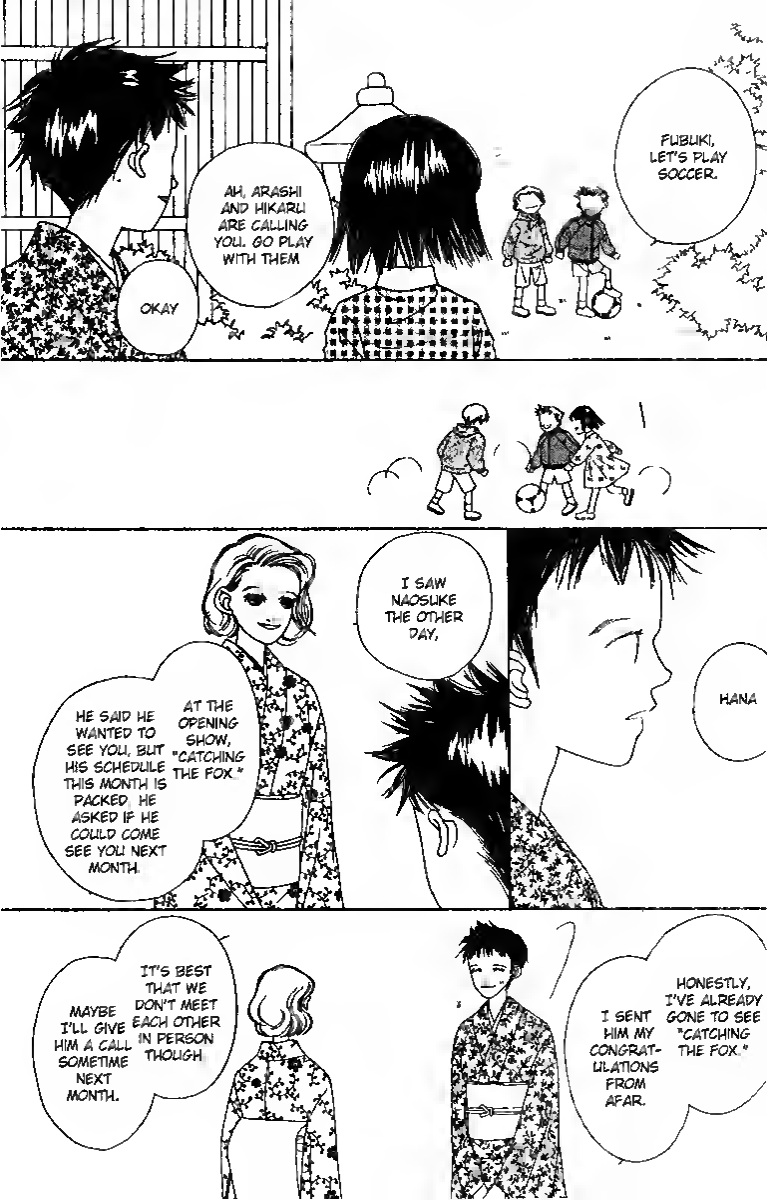

HELLO.
OH, HINA-SAN HOW ARE YOU?
WHERE'S MOM...?
INSIDE.
THANKS.
SUGI-KUN, IS IT TRUE YOU'RE LEAVING US?
YES, I'LL BE HERE UNTIL THE END OF NEXT MONTH, THOUGH.
REALLY? WE'LL MISS YOU SO MUCH AROUND HERE
IT'LL BE WEEKS UNTIL I GO. DON'T SAY IT LIKE I'M LEAVING TOMORROW
HA HA, THAT'S TRUE
ONEE-CHAN, YOU'RE HERE.
THANKS ARARE I'VE COME TO GET HIM


NO. HE WENT TO DELIVER THE ORDER AT TAKADA-SENSEI'S.
NO PROBLEM. YOU SHOULD THANK MOM THOUGH. I JUST GOT BACK MYSELF
SUGI-KUN, IS KEN-CHAN BACK YET?
AGAIN? THAT SENSEI ALWAYS KEEPS KEN-CHAN TOO LONG AFTER HE'S MADE HIS DELIVERY.
T/N Japanese chess
RUSTLE RUSTLE
SHOOT!
THAT'S ARARE. TARGET ACQUIRED
FOR WHAT? A SHOUGI* PARTNER?
PROBABLY.
TO HAVE A FAMOUS SENSEI FAVOR KEN-CHAN BECAUSE HE'S GOOD AT SHOUGI. ISN'T THAT A GOOD THING?
DON
FWOOSH

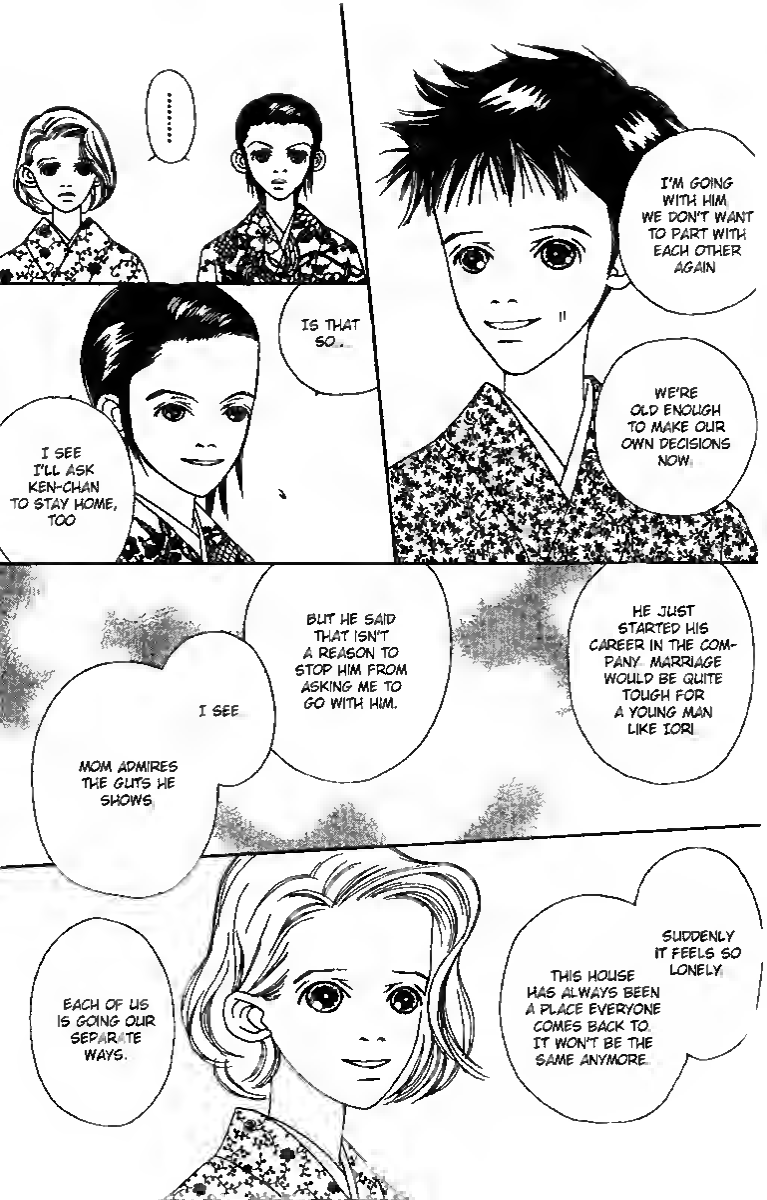
SIGH
AGAIN?! WHO DID THIS?
I KNOW YOU WERE IN THERE. COME OUT THIS SECOND!
OR HIKARU?!
ARASHI?!
FUBUKI?!

PUNISH-MENT!!
IT'S NOT A TOY!
YOU USED TO DO THAT TO MOM AND SEI-OJISAN.
HAVE YOU ANY IDEA HOW MUCH IT HURTS BEING SHOT WITH THAT THING?
AH!
!
I'M HOME
HANA-CHAN!
HANA-CHAN!
HANA-CHAN!
SO YOU WERE THE SHOOTER, FUBUKI. THAT WAS DANGEROUS.
WHERE DID YOU GET THE GUN?
KENJI BOUGHT IT FOR ME.
NOT KENJI! CALL HIM DAD!

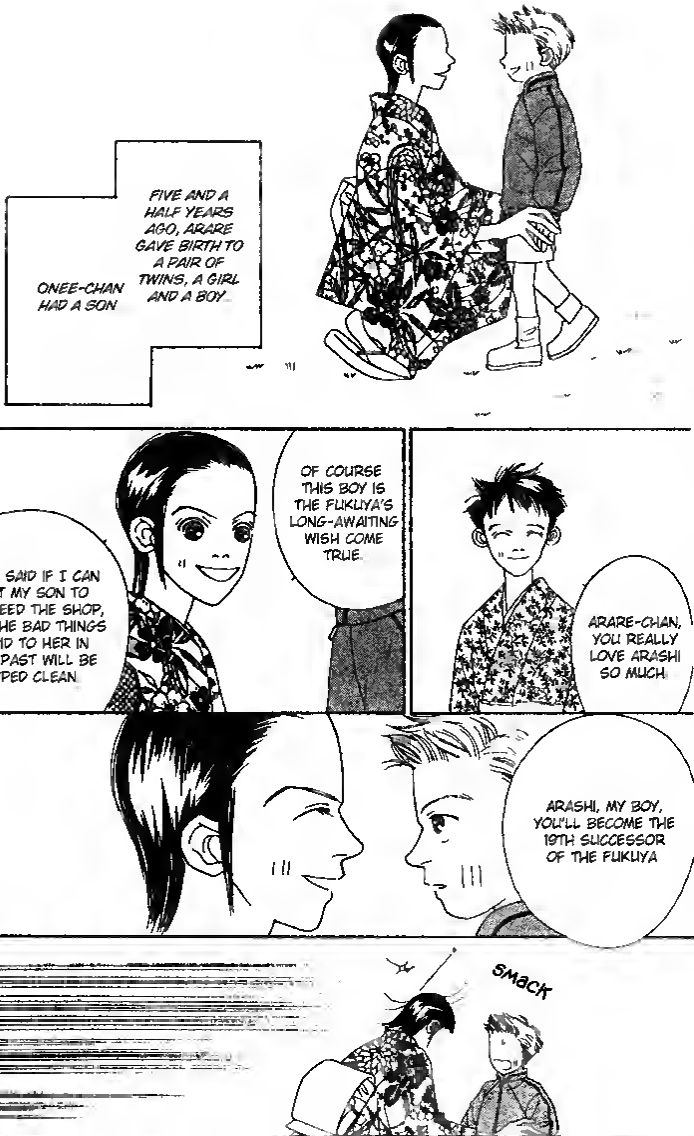
HANA-CHAN, HELP!
WHAT HAPPENED? DID YOU GUYS DO SOMETHING AND GET SCOLDED AGAIN?
YOU WENT OUT...?
YEAH, FOR A LITTLE BIT. YOU CAME EARLY TODAY...
HANA-CHAN, IS ONII-SAN COMING TODAY?
HE CAN'T. MAYBE ON SATURDAY.
BUT HE PROMISED HE'D COME PLAY WITH ME TODAY.
SORRY.
WELL, THERE IS THIS THING...
ONEE-CHAN STOPPED HELPING OUT IN THE SHOP SIX YEARS AGO.
SHE'S BEEN EXTREMELY BUSY AS THE WIFE OF A SUZUNARIYA DEPARTMENT STORE'S TOP EXECUTIVE.


FUBUKI, LET'S PLAY SOCCER.
AH, ARASHI AND HIKARU ARE CALLING YOU. GO PLAY WITH THEM
OKAY
I SAW NAOSUKE THE OTHER DAY,
HANA
AT THE OPENING SHOW, "CATCHING THE FOX."
HE SAID HE WANTED TO SEE YOU, BUT HIS SCHEDULE THIS MONTH IS PACKED. HE ASKED IF HE COULD COME SEE YOU NEXT MONTH.
HONESTLY, I'VE ALREADY GONE TO SEE "CATCHING THE FOX."
I SENT HIM MY CONGRATULATIONS FROM AFAR.
IT'S BEST THAT WE DON'T MEET EACH OTHER IN PERSON THOUGH
MAYBE I'LL GIVE HIM A CALL SOMETIME NEXT MONTH.

BUT... NEXT MONTH, I WON'T BE IN KYOTO ANYMORE.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH A FRIENDLY MEET-UP? ARE YOU STILL WORRIED ABOUT THE PAST?
NOT REALLY.
IORI-KUN WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO FUKUOKA.
THIS SATURDAY, HE'LL COME HERE TO BID US GOODBYE.
IT'D BE GREAT IF YOU ALL CAN BE HOME.
GOOD-BYE..?


.....
I'M GOING WITH HIM. WE DON'T WANT TO PART WITH EACH OTHER AGAIN
WE'RE OLD ENOUGH TO MAKE OUR OWN DECISIONS NOW.
IS THAT SO...
I SEE. I'LL ASK KEN-CHAN TO STAY HOME, TOO
BUT HE SAID THAT ISN'T A REASON TO STOP HIM FROM ASKING ME TO GO WITH HIM.
HE JUST STARTED HIS CAREER IN THE COMPANY. MARRIAGE WOULD BE QUITE TOUGH FOR A YOUNG MAN LIKE IORI
I SEE
MOM ADMIRES THE GUTS HE SHOWS
SUDDENLY IT FEELS SO LONELY.
THIS HOUSE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A PLACE EVERYONE COMES BACK TO. IT WON'T BE THE SAME ANYMORE.
EACH OF US IS GOING OUR SEPARATE WAYS.

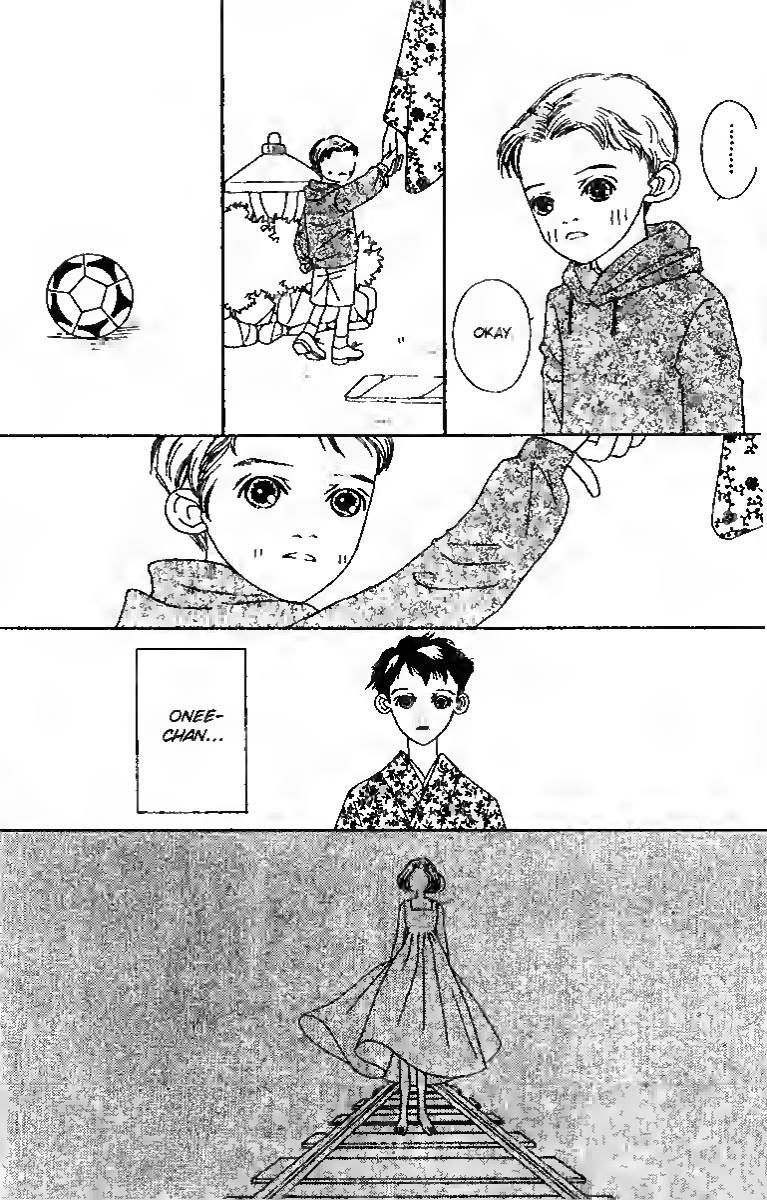
ARARE, ARARE
HM..?
YEAH AFTER A YOUNG EMPLOYEE HAS CULTIVATED ENOUGH EXPERIENCE AND BEEN ADVANCED IN HIS CAREER, HE'S USUALLY TRANSFERRED BACK TO KYOTO'S HEADQUARTERS
I'LL DEFINITELY COME BACK TO KYOTO SOMEDAY
I SEE
DO YOU WANT ME TO ASK GRANDMA FOR MEDICINE?
I'M SORRY
WAS IT HURT WHEN YOU WERE SHOT? I SHOULDN'T HAVE TOLD FUBUKI TO SHOOT YOU
BUT YOU MUSTN'T SHOOT ANYBODY AGAIN, ALRIGHT?
I'M FINE IT DOESN'T HURT ANY-MORE.
MY... YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD BOY.
OKAY, I GOT IT.
ARASHI..

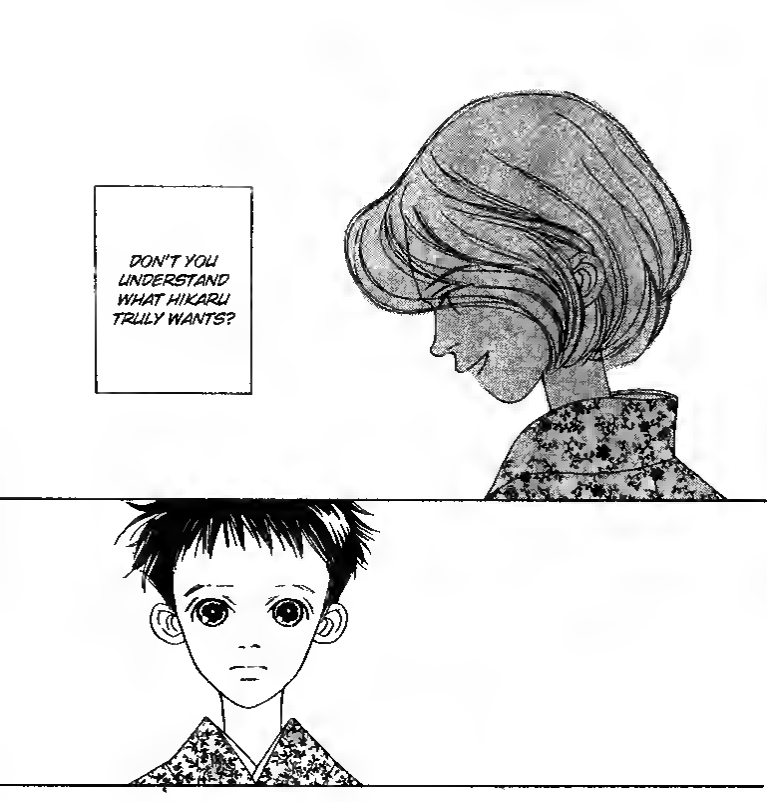

ONEE-CHAN HAD A SON
FIVE AND A HALF YEARS AGO, ARARE GAVE BIRTH TO A PAIR OF TWINS, A GIRL AND A BOY.
OF COURSE THIS BOY IS THE FUKUYA'S LONG-AWAITING WISH COME TRUE.
MOM SAID IF I CAN GET MY SON TO SUCCEED THE SHOP, ALL THE BAD THINGS I DID TO HER IN THE PAST WILL BE WIPED CLEAN.
ARARE-CHAN, YOU REALLY LOVE ARASHI SO MUCH.
ARASHI, MY BOY, YOU'LL BECOME THE 19TH SUCCESSOR OF THE FUKUYA
SMACK

FUBUKI!
UNFORT-UNATELY,
THE ONE WHO WILL SUCCEED FUKUYA IN THE 19TH GENERATION AFTER MOM, KENJI-SAN AND ARARE-CHAN WOULD BE THIS LITTLE FUBUKI.
WHY DON'T YOU LISTEN TO WHAT I SAY?
LOOK AT HOW SWEET ARASHI IS. HOW CAN SIBLINGS BE SO DIFFERENT? DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
AH! ARARE, YOU MEANIE!
GIVE ME THE GUN!
CALL ME MOM!

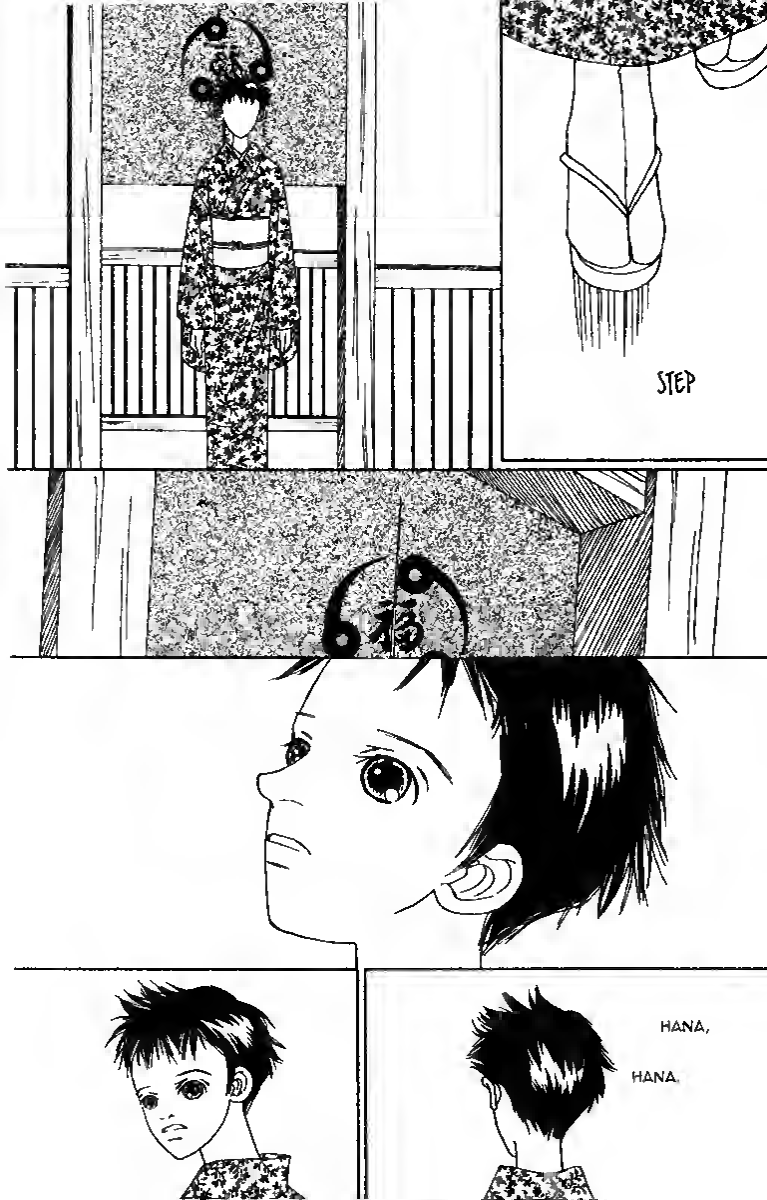
.....
ARARE-CHAN...

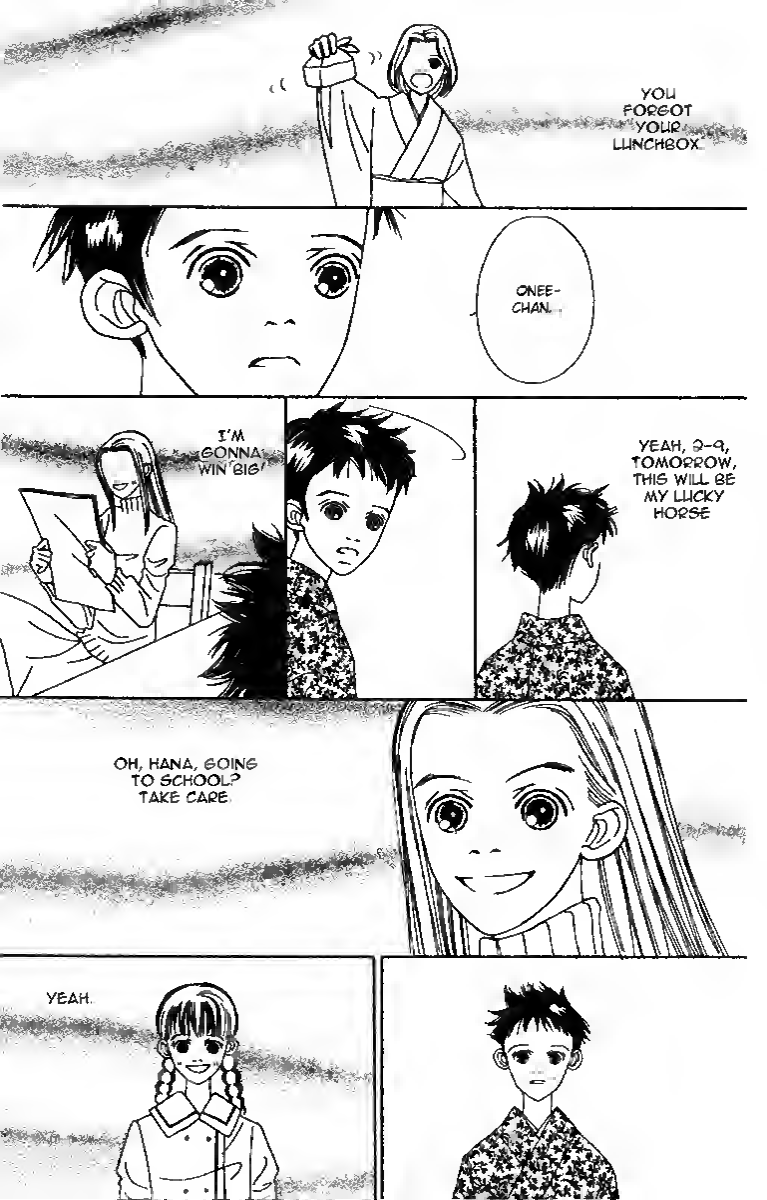
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND HOW FUBUKI FEELS?
WE'RE LEAVING?
HIKARU, LET'S GO SAY GOODBYE TO GRANDMA AND GO HOME.
KICK
KICK
BUT I PROMISED ARASHI AND FUBUKI I'D PLAY SOCCER WITH THEM
YOU HAVE A TUTORING SESSION TODAY, REMEMBER?
IF YOU DON'T STUDY HARD, HOW CAN YOU GET INTO GREAT-GRANDPA'S COMPANY AND HELP YOUR FATHER?
COME ON LET'S GO.

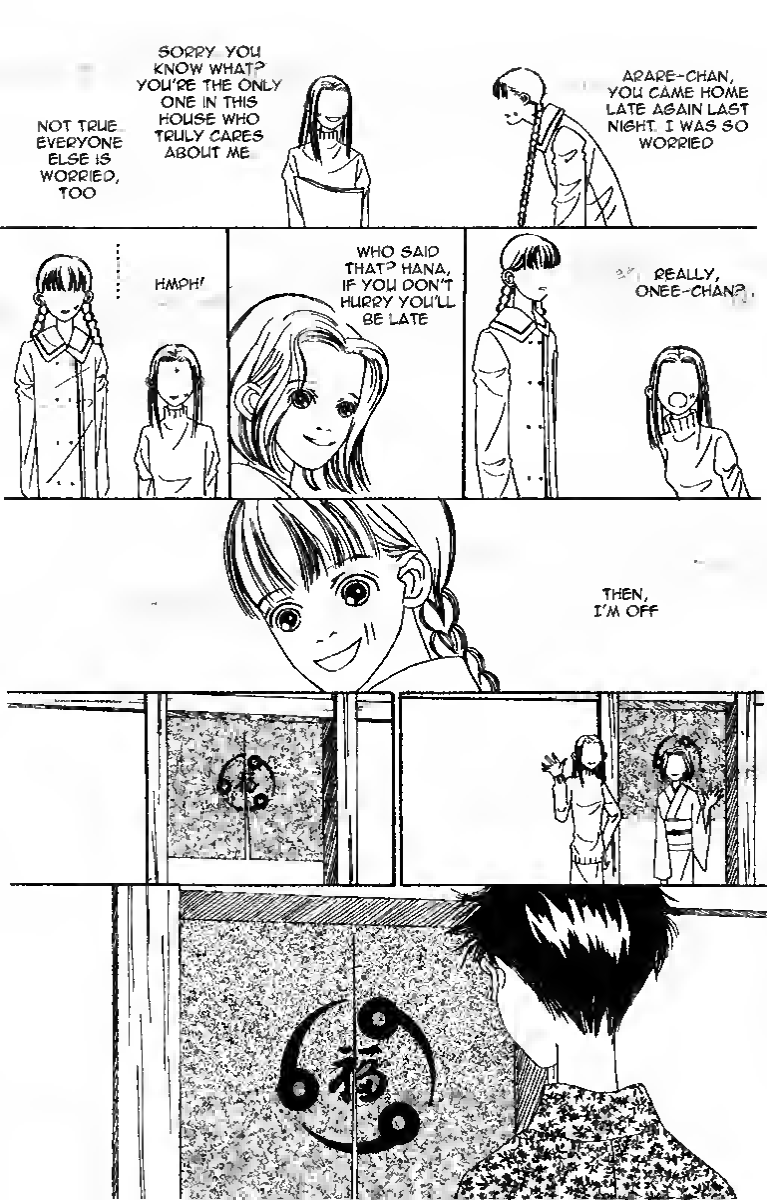

.....
OKAY
ONEE-CHAN...

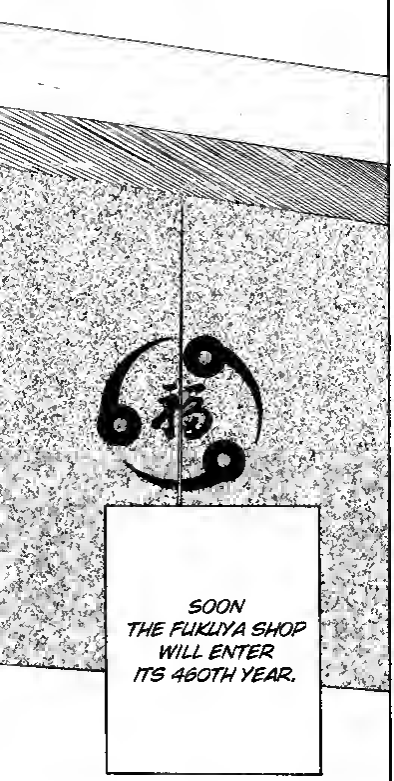


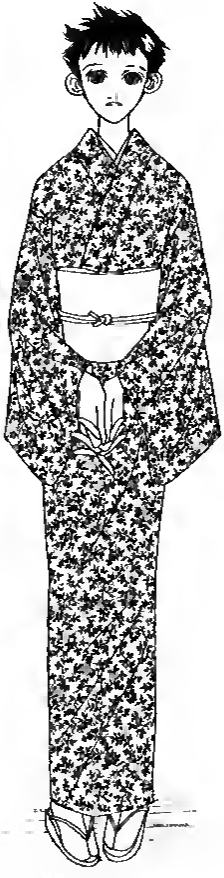
WHEN WE BECOME PARENTS, WE FORGET WHAT IT WAS LIKE WHEN WE WERE CHILDREN.


STEP
HANA,
HANA.


YOU FORGOT YOUR LUNCHBOX.
ONEE-CHAN...
YEAH, 2-9, TOMORROW, THIS WILL BE MY LUCKY HORSE
I'M GONNA WIN BIG!
OH, HANA, GOING TO SCHOOL? TAKE CARE.
YEAH.


ARARE-CHAN, YOU CAME HOME LATE AGAIN LAST NIGHT. I WAS SO WORRIED
SORRY. YOU KNOW WHAT? YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE IN THIS HOUSE WHO TRULY CARES ABOUT ME
NOT TRUE. EVERYONE ELSE IS WORRIED, TOO
REALLY, ONEE-CHAN?
WHO SAID THAT? HANA, IF YOU DON'T HURRY YOU'LL BE LATE
HMPH!
THEN, I'M OFF

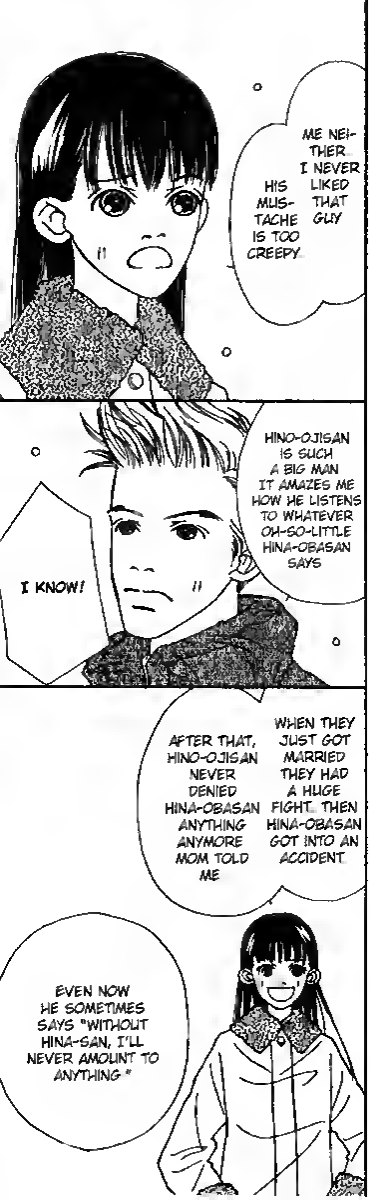

福
SOON
THE FUKUYA SHOP
WILL ENTER
ITS 460TH YEAR.



IN THE PAST DECADE, MANY EVENTS HAVE HAPPENED AT FUKUYA
EVERYONE, THANK YOU FOR STAYING WITH US AND WITNESSING THEM UNFOLD

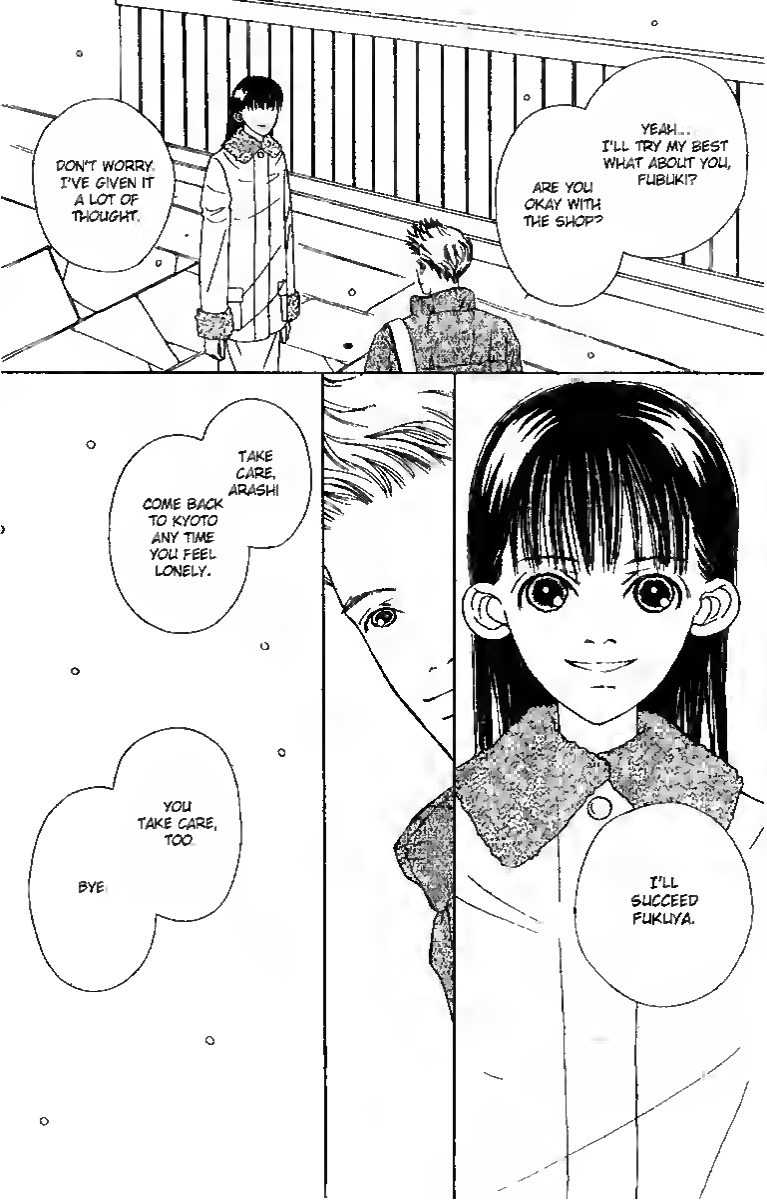
EVERY TIME THE NOREN FLUTTERS, TIME PASSES
AND SO DOES THE ERA

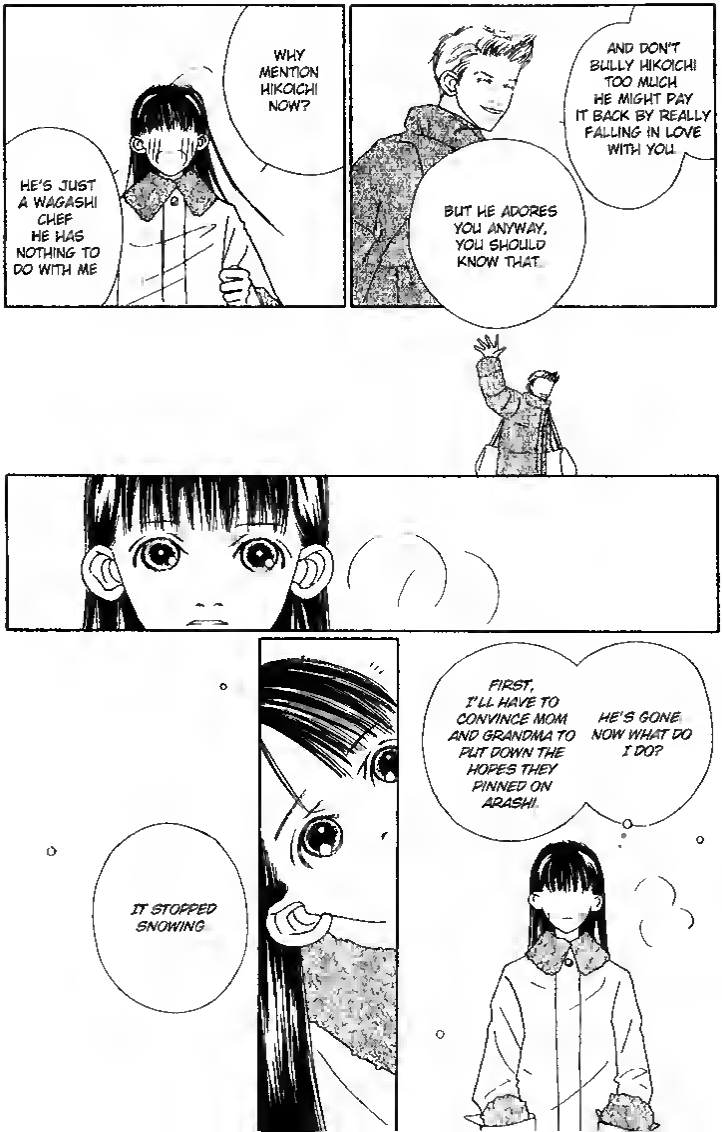
ARASHI, ARE YOU REALLY LEAVING?
YEAH.
TAKE CARE. GOOD LUCK.


ME NEITHER. I NEVER LIKED THAT GUY
HIS MUSTACHE IS TOO CREEPY
HINO-OJISAN IS SUCH A BIG MAN IT AMAZES ME HOW HE LISTENS TO WHATEVER OH-SO-LITTLE HINA-OBASAN SAYS
I KNOW!
AFTER THAT, HINO-OJISAN NEVER DENIED HINA-OBASAN ANYTHING ANYMORE MOM TOLD ME
WHEN THEY JUST GOT MARRIED THEY HAD A HUGE FIGHT. THEN HINA-OBASAN GOT INTO AN ACCIDENT
EVEN NOW HE SOMETIMES SAYS "WITHOUT HINA-SAN, I'LL NEVER AMOUNT TO ANYTHING."
WHY DON'T YOU ASK FOR HINOYAMA-OJISAN'S HELP?
OR GET SUPPORT FROM IORI-OJISAN?
HINO-OJISAN IS NEARBY, BUT I DOUBT HE'LL AGREE WITH MY DECISION.
PLUS, I DON'T REALLY LIKE TALKING TO HIM

HINO-OJISAN, YOU'RE SUCH A FOX.
WHATEVER BAD THINGS HE DOES, IF HE THROWS IN AN APOLOGY FOLLOWED BY THAT LINE, WOMEN ALWAYS LET IT GO
I'LL MISS YOU TERRIBLY.
IT SUCKS THAT YOU WERE DRAFTED INTO THE NPB* AND THEY DON'T CARE.
MOM USED TO SUPPORT YOU WHEN YOU PLAYED BASEBALL IN COLLEGE, BUT THE MINUTE YOU SAID YOU WOULDN'T SUCCEED THE SHOP AND WANTED TO PURSUE YOUR CAREER AS A PRO IN TOKYO, MOM AND GRANDMA WENT BERSERK
BUT DAD AND I WILL ROOT FOR YOU
GO ALL THE WAY TO THE NATIONAL TEAM, OKAY?

(*Nippon Professional Baseball League)


DON'T WORRY. I'VE GIVEN IT A LOT OF THOUGHT.
ARE YOU OKAY WITH THE SHOP?
YEAH... I'LL TRY MY BEST WHAT ABOUT YOU, FUBUKI?
TAKE CARE, ARASHI
COME BACK TO KYOTO ANY TIME YOU FEEL LONELY.
YOU TAKE CARE, TOO.
BYE.
I'LL SUCCEED FUKUYA.


WHY MENTION HIKOICHI NOW?
HE'S JUST A WAGASHI CHEF HE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME
AND DON'T BULLY HIKOICHI TOO MUCH HE MIGHT PAY IT BACK BY REALLY FALLING IN LOVE WITH YOU.
BUT HE ADORES YOU ANYWAY, YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT.
FIRST, I'LL HAVE TO CONVINCE MOM AND GRANDMA TO PUT DOWN THE HOPES THEY PINNED ON ARASHI.
HE'S GONE. NOW WHAT DO I DO?
IT STOPPED SNOWING.

EVERYTHING WILL BE ALRIGHT. MOM AND GRANDMA HAVE FELT THIS FEELING OF INSECURITY BEFORE, TOO
CHIN UP, GIRL. YOU CAN DO IT.
STEP
THE FUKUYA WAS FOUNDED 490 YEARS AGO. THIS IS IT'S 18TH GENERATION

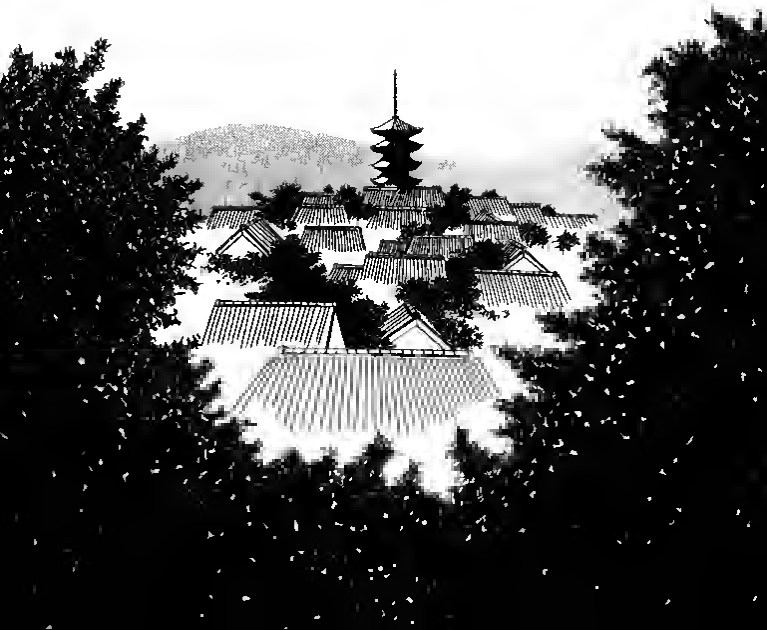
THE WATER IN KYOTO IS SUITED FOR BREWING TEA.
SINCE THE ERA OF SEN NO RIKYUU*,
THE JAPANESE "WAY OF TEA" HAS FLOURISHED.

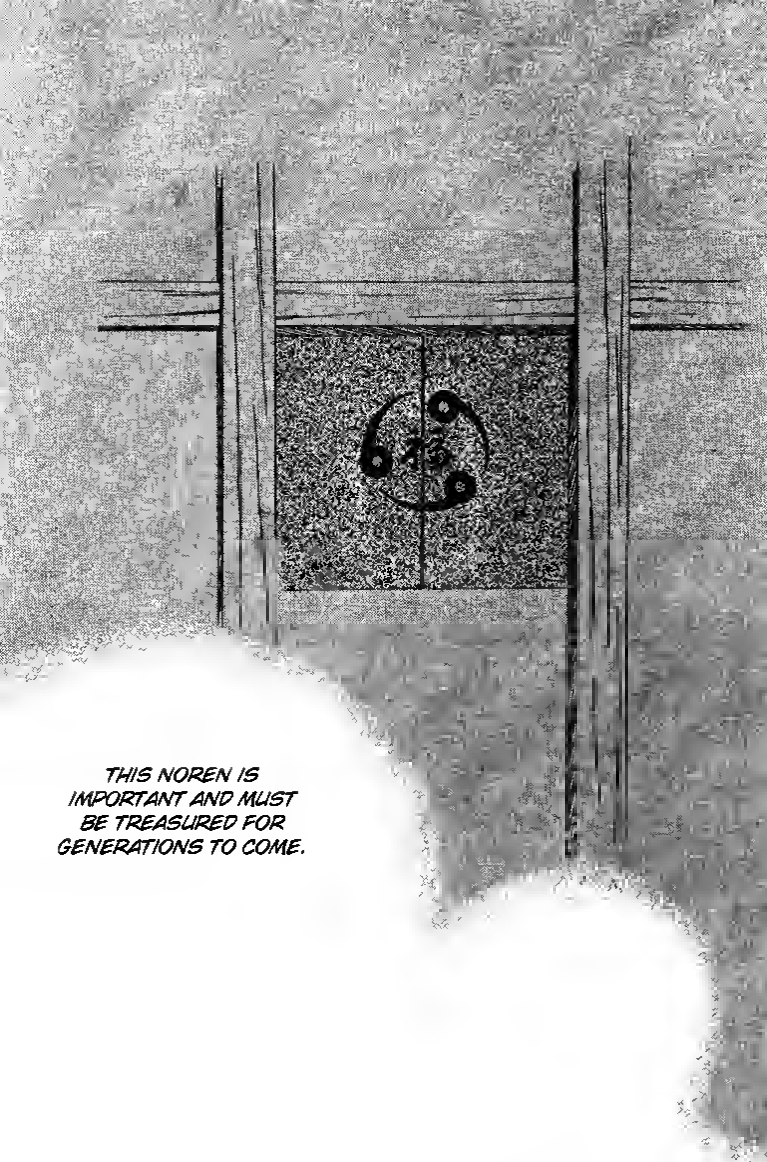
FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS, FUKUYA HAS MADE WAGASHI,
AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE TEA CEREMONY.

WE ONCE SUPPLIED WAGASHI TO TOYOTOMI HIDEYOSHI**,
A TEA-LOVER. THE TASTE OF FUKUYA'S WAGASHI CONTINUES TO BE A
FAVORITE AMONG TEA CEREMONIES, TEMPLES AND SHRINES EVEN TODAY.

T/N: Sen no Rikyuu is considered the historical figure with the most profound influence on the Japanese "Way of Tea"

Toyotomi Hideyoshi was a feudal lord in the Sengoku period that unified the political factions of Japan. He is regarded as Japan's second "great unifier."




THIS NOREN IS IMPORTANT AND MUST BE TREASURED FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

Afterword

I've been really happy to work on Fukuya. The art sometimes makes me a bit sad but the intricate character relationships and development is outstanding. You don't see enough stories with families and normal drama you can relate to and actually learn from. I hope you can also take something from Wingtip into the new year!

- Kitimonian

The first time I read Fukuyadou Honpo, I was thinking, "what kind of manga is it?" To be honest, I'm a fan of food-related manga, but no matter how sweet the wagashi looks in this manga, I couldn't love it at all. But when I realized that more and more people had fallen for it, I tried to give it a second chance and... I was totally hooked! This manga really taught me not to judge a book from its cover. My favorite character is Hino. I can never have enough of her story =D

-Meifeng

FH is special to me. I wanted to scanlate it even before Ashita no Ousama. But I put if off. The art was that BAD ^^, After seeing how AnO was accepted, I decided to give it a try. It's thrilling to see that people do enjoy it despite the art.

-Chihaya

FH was definitely a charming sleeper. I was put off by it at first, until I started to read the story in preparation for an editing job. Two read-through, one cleaned chapter, and two type sets later, I love this manga - it's a breath of fresh air compared to reading too many shoujo mongas. Too bad it never became a drama.

-Shrubbery

I proof-read every single chapter of this wonderful series, and having taken the journey with them, I kind of feel honored. Strange, huh? 50 chapters in a little over a year. Wow. Good job, guys!

-Maverick

When I saw the first pages to be cleaned for Fukuyadou I cringed. Not just because there was a lot of work to do to clean them, but because I was certain I wouldn't like the story. I was so wrong. I became hooked on the story after my first chapter and read ahead as much as I could! This was such a charming story of sisterhood, family, and love - one I will always remember.

-Ladychaos_T

Konpeito

The word "konpeito" comes from the Portuguese word confeito. Konpeito is sugar candy. Each piece is covered with tiny bulges. It usually takes 7 to 10 days to make konpeito and they are handmade even today

Fukuyadon Honpo

by YUCHI Yayomi

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http://dattebayo.com